

TONY JUDGE - Chair
CHRISTINE MCKIERNAN, M.D., Vice-Chair
KAREN WALSH PIO - Clerk
JESSICA COLLINS
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON HART, Director of Public Health

NOTICE

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
(Hybrid – attend via Zoom Webinar or in person at South Hadley Library)
&
AGENDA**

May 16, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Webinar from your Computer:
Please click this URL to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84862078766?pwd=U2x1dFIUTm5pNk5wO0grTmJlcjZHQT09>
Passcode: 677008

Or join by phone:
US: +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 848 6207 8766
Passcode: 677008

NOTE: Not all the topics listed in this notice may actually be reached for discussion. In addition, the topics listed are those which the Chair reasonably expects will be discussed as of the date of this notice.

To: Board of Health Members

From: Sharon D. Hart, Director of Public Health

Re: A Board of Health Meeting (Hybrid) will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the South Hadley Library.

- 1: Chair to Call the Meeting to Order**
- 2: Acceptance of the Minutes of the February 14 and April 11, 2023 meetings.**

- 3: **Announcements and Open Forum (10 Minutes) – NOTE: Persons wishing to submit written comments/questions regarding items which are not a subject of a public hearing are encouraged to use the following Google form:**

<https://forms.gle/QiJ1SdbyaHUtMAgDA>

4: **New Business:**

(a): **Board Reorganization**

(b): **COVID-19 Update**

- **COVID-19 Report (Sharon)**
 - **Wastewater testing**
 - **Vaccine clinics**

(c): **Director's Report**

(d): **Master Plan – Update**

(e): **Racial Equity 101 Training and Health Equity in the Fiscal Year 24 State Budget**

(f): **Syringe Services Program**

- 5: **7:00 p.m. Joint Meeting with the Selectboard to Discuss ARPA Administrative Position in the Board of Health**

6: **Old Business:**

(a): **South Hadley Human Rights Commission – Status**

7: **Adjourn Meeting**

*** Please note: Meetings are recorded***

TONY JUDGE, Chair
CHRISTINE MCKIERNAN, MD, Vice-Chair
KAREN WALSH PIO, LICSW, LADC I, Clerk
JESSICA COLLINS
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON D. HART, Public Health Director

Board of Health Minutes

February 14, 2023

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Present: Tony Judge, Chair; Dr. Christine McKiernan, Vice Chair; Karen Walsh Pio, Board of Health Clerk; Stephan Frantz, Board Member; Sharon Hart, Public Health Director; Jennifer Jernigan, Assistant Public Health Director; Monasia Ceasar, Health Compliance Specialist

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Chair Judge.

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the January 10, 2022, Meeting:

Chair Judge introduced the minutes from the 01/10/23 meeting and questioned if there were any comments or changes to be made. No changes were brought forth to the Board. Dr. McKiernan made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Walsh Pio seconded it. All present members approved the minutes.

2. Announcements and Open Forum:

Chair Judge asked if there were any notions to be considered for the open forum. There were no notions brought forward for consideration.

3. New Business

A. COVID Update:

Director Hart shared that there were 8 reported cases last week and the state is set to stop COVID follow up this May. Upcoming vaccine clinics will be hosted in Holyoke and Chicopee at various locations. Participates will be eligible for a \$75 gift card while supplies last. Clinic information is posted on the Town website and shared with Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Walsh Pio questioned if there were any updates regarding boosters. Hart noted that this fall an annual vaccine will become available with the latest strains.



B. Director's Update:

Director provided an overview of the Department's major occurrences from the previous month. She noted a couple fires in town, an issuance of a condemnation and frozen pipes that occurred during the cold chill. The department hosted a Narcan training at the Council of Aging in response to the installation of Narcan at the facility. The department hopes to host additional training and programming at the Senior Center in the future. Hart presented the department's budget proposal before the Select Board and Appropriation Committee as well as outlined her goals and objectives during a department Head meeting.

C. Health Equity Policy Framework:

Director Hart reported that she had sent out the Health Equity Policy Framework to Attorney Marjorie Hurst with the Point of View Publication. The publication curates stories from surrounding areas with a community perspective. Hart requested that the publication be distributed more widely in Town as it is only currently available at Iona's Kitchen.

Dr. McKiernan noted that she appreciated that the framework established the policy in writing but suggested some modifications. Dr. McKiernan proposed defining the 6 social determinants of public health earlier in the policy. Walsh Pio mentioned that the policy will be discussed further once it has been thoroughly reviewed.

Stephen Frantz joined the meeting virtually.

Discussion about South Hadley Human Rights Commission pursued:

Chair Judge questioned that the difference between this and the Human Rights Commission be defined. Hart referred to Article 17, a Town bylaw provided by the Town Administrator, outlining the scope of the Human Rights Commission. Hart mentioned that the Board must nominate a Board member or resident to the Commission. Collins had previously shared interest in joining. The Board members agreed to nominate Collins and await her response.

D. Overview of Buttery Brook Watershed Restoration Report from Fuss & O'Neil Inc. :

Chair Judge introduced the Buttery Brook Watershed Report as the next topic of discussion. Director Hart referred to the summary provided by Fuss & O'Neil Inc. outlining the Titus Pond project at Buttery Brook. The summary provided an overview of the project as they try to establish free flow of the dam. There is a list of notification requirements that must be met. Chair Judge mentioned that there have been some community concerns shared regarding not only the restoration project, but the proposed

wildlife sanctuary at the BATTERY Brook. Neighbors are concerned with space limitations for the proposed project and have concerns about the accumulation of algae in the summer. Hart shared that the Conversation Committee had issued public notices years ago to surrounding residents advising them of the harms associated with fertilizer application and algae growth.

Hart added that the Conversation Committee is overseeing the development proposals for recreation and educational additions to BATTERY Brook. Dr. McKiernan questioned if there were any public health issues that needed to be discussed regarding the restoration project. Direct Hart confirmed that there were no public health threats that needed to be reviewed and the report was provided for informational purposes.

(E) Skinner Woods Estate Update on Septic System:

Director Hart mentioned that the developer went before the Planning Board to address the unapproved changes made to the original plans for the condo development. Following confirmation that the septic system was moved from the engineer of the original plan, the Health Department conducted another perc test for the new location of the system. Perc tests will have to be redone for all the systems that were moved. The developer had to request permission from the Planning Board, to install the septic systems in a no work zone to accommodate for the unapproved changes made to the plan. The Planning Board approved the changes and issued provisions and penalties that the developer would have to comply with. Hart confirmed that an occupancy permit will not be granted without approved septic systems.

(F) Cannabis Industry and Overview of Cannabis Control Commission:

Chair Judge introduced the cannabis industry and Cannabis Control Commission as the next topic for consideration. Walsh Pio shared that representatives from regional coalitions are coming together to join sub committees that focus on categories relative to the cannabis industry. Some of the sub committees include billboards, cannabis cafes, regulation, enforcement and monitoring, and guidance.

Walsh Pio noted that due to the efforts of the South Hadley Drug & Alcohol Coalition, the commercial sale of marijuana is not permissible in town. Neighboring towns that do allow the commercial sale of marijuana will have to begin discussing potential regulations, enforcement, and monitoring that will be implemented to oversee cannabis cafes.

Walsh Pio highlighted the influx of billboards advocating for cannabis sales and the need for regulation to limit it. Chair Judge added that one of the dispensaries in Northampton is set to close and suggests that the economy will self-regulate. Although somewhat true, Walsh Pio noted that it is important that the Commission be held accountable for effective preventative measures.

Discussion regarding medicinal use of psychedelic mushrooms pursued:

Walsh Pio noted that representative Oliveira attended the town's candidates' event at the library. She was able to bring his attention to a proposed bill that would recognize the medicinal use of psilocybin, psilocyn, dimethyltryptamine, ibogaine, and mescaline for those 18 years and older. Walsh Pio expressed her disapproval and concerns associated with the proposed bill. Director Hart noted that the proposed bill does not legalize, but instead decriminalizes the use. Walsh Pio highlighted that drug legalization typically follows the path of decriminalization and allowance of medicinal use as the gateway for commercial sale of such drug. Hart shared the 2021-2022 bill SD1727 proposing the ban of billboards advertising alcohol and marijuana. Walsh Pio advised the Board that this is something possibly being considered.

Walsh Pio mentioned the challenges faced when navigating the different interest groups associated with the commercialization of such products. She referred to the book written by Michael Pollen summarizing his experiences with hallucinogenic mushrooms. Frantz shared that indigenous communities have historically used hallucinogenic mushrooms for spiritual practice and medical use. Walsh Pio noted that she fears the permittance of medicinal use will only be the beginning and open the door for recreational use of hallucinogens. Walsh Pio advised the Board members that is something to be aware of as developments and updates arise.

(G) Rental Registry

Chair Judge introduced the rental registry as the next matter of business. Director Hart reported that the draft rental registry regulation has been sent to Town counsel for review and opened the floor up for comments from the Board members. Frantz suggested defining the adult age allowed to act as the owner's representative with a proposal of 21 years old and older. Frantz also shared concerns about the possibility of guests finding a loophole to bypass the 28 day stay maximum allowed for short term rentals, by continuously renewing their stay following a break in the sequential stay. Frantz referred to nearby areas that have an influx of properties turned into short term rentals. This negatively impacts the housing availability for the community. Hart agreed to follow up with Town Counsel regarding the proposed changes.

Hart mentioned that Planning Board is currently curating provisions for short term rentals in hopes of preserving the integrity of the housing stock in South Hadley. This would include identifying zones in which short term rentals would be allowed and setting a limit for the amount of short-term rentals allowed in town. The Building Commissioner is the acting enforcement agent for Zoning and would oversee compliance of the short-term rental regulation.

Hart confirmed that the rental registry policy is for long term rentals only. Owners would confirm that they have read and understand the provisions outlined in the MA Sanitary Code and their properties meet the minimum standards of habitation. Director Hart clarified that the Department only completes housing inspections upon request of the occupant. Hart shared that there are approximately 1700 long term rentals in Town according to the Assessor's office. Hart received information from the Clerk's office regarding death's certificate that could provide insight on trends relative to one's residence and their cause of death. The rental registry would help in mapping areas in Town that have rentals as well as identifying environmental justice groups in Town. This would help with easy distribution of education materials and available resources to those who could benefit to it. The establishment of the equity framework would help support policies like this. Hart requested that the Board members thoroughly review the regulation and send forth any comments.

(4) Old Business:

(A) Board Members Sign-Off on Glufosinate/ Glyphosate Regulation

Chair Judge questioned if the Board members needed to sign the glufosinate and glyphosate regulation. Director Hart reported that the regulation had been reviewed by Town Counsel and cleared with the understanding that the definition of pesticide would be modified to the state's definition. Hart added that the regulation would have to be re-signed by the Board members. Jernigan requested that the Board members sign three copies for the Department's records. Frantz suggested removing the mention of including all GBH's in the fourth paragraph under the protocol section as it seemed redundant. Hart agreed to verify proposed changes with Town Counsel and to wait for Board members to sign until those changes have been made. Chair Judge agreed to accept amotion to approve the regulation with the understanding that those changes would be made. Dr. McKiernan made a motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. All Board members were in favor.

(5) Set Next Meeting Date – (TBD) at 6:00 p.m. at South Hadley Library

The next meeting date was set for March 14th at 6:00 pm in the Trustees room at the South Hadley library. All present members were in consensus with the next meeting date being March 14th at 6pm at the library.

7. Adjourn the meeting:

Chair Judge mentioned he would accept a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. McKiernan made the motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. All members were in consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully,

Monasia Ceasar

DRAFT

ATTACHMENT A

RECORD LOCATION

BOH Meeting Minutes 01.10.23	BOH File
Director's Report	BOH File
Rental Registry Regulation Draft	BOH File
Glufosinate/ Glyphosate Regulation	BOH File
Health Equity Policy Framework	BOH File
Buttery Brook Watershed Restoration Report	BOH File

DRAFT

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SHARON D. HART, Public Health Director

Board of Health Minutes

April 11, 2023

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Present: Tony Judge, Chair; Karen Walsh Pio, Board of Health Clerk; Stephan Frantz, Board Member; Jessica Collins, Board Member; Sharon Hart, Public Health Director; Jennifer Jernigan, Assistant Public Health Director; Monasia Ceasar, Health Compliance Specialist; Maureen Couture, Public Health Nurse; Nate Therrien, Master Plan Implementation Committee; Michelle Theroux, Master Plan Implementation Committee

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Judge.

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the February 14, 2022, Meeting:

Chair Judge introduced the minutes from the 02/14/23 meeting and questioned if there were any comments or changes to be made. No changes were brought forth to the Board. Collins mentioned she was not at the last meeting and could not vote on the meeting minutes. Because there was not a quorum, the Board members decided to postpone the approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

2. Announcements and Open Forum:

Chair Judge asked if there were any notions to be considered for the open forum. There were no notions brought forward for consideration.

3. New Business

A. COVID Update:

Director Hart shared there were little to no cases coming in and follow up is set to end as of May 11th. The wastewater testing has also shown the dramatic decline in COVID cases. The UMass nurses will be hosting a vaccine clinic at the Council of Aging on April 14th. Walsh Pio questioned if the FDA had approved the second booster. Hart noted that she had not received such notice yet. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued information regarding the redefinition of COVID deaths and how that may impact future data.

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Chair Judge questioned if the Department had the capacity to quickly administer vaccines if the need were to arise. Hart and Couture noted that the Department has the capacity to set up a clinic quickly with the use of third-party vendors like Walgreens. The third-party vendors would bring and administer the vaccine as well as process all the corresponding paperwork. Judge asked if the older population would receive priority with receiving the vaccines. Hart shared that it would depend upon the virus at hand and referenced H1N1 as an example.

Frantz virtually joined the meeting.

B. Emergency Order to Vacate- 76 Alvord St, 100 Abbey St, and 13-15 Canal St

Chair Judge introduced the ratification of three emergency orders to vacate as the next topic for consideration. Director Hart shared that both 76 Alvord St and 100 Abbey St were condemned due to disconnection of utilities and the condemnation of 13-15 Canal St was the result of a fire. Frantz expressed his concerns about condemning a unit due to failure of providing payment. Hart noted that typically the utility provider has made several attempts to collect payment or start a payment plan prior to alerting the Health Department. The Health Department must condemn dwellings that are deemed uninhabitable, including the lack of utilities. Collins added that the occupants are typically not displaced, and restoration of utility services are made rather quickly after issuing the order. Chair Judge mentioned he would accept a motion to ratify the emergency orders to vacate. Collins made the motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. A roll call was taken.

Karen Walsh Pio: Aye
Jessica Collins: Aye
Tony Judge: Aye
Stephen Frantz: Aye

All Board members were in consensus.

C. Emails- Town provided emails

Chair Judge presented the town provided emails as the next matter of business. Director Hart mentioned that the town pays for an allotment of town issued emails. It has been noted that some email accounts are not being used. Hart advised Board members to either utilize their town issued email or notify her of their choice not to so that their email slot can be reassigned to someone else. Judge and Walsh Pio shared their inability to access their town email and agreed to follow up with IT on gaining access. Jernigan verified that Board members were able to access the meeting documents sent via email.

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Walsh Pio noted she had issues accessing the link with the agenda packet but believed it to be a technological issue with her personal computer. Therrien questioned if the Board member's email addresses are listed on the Department's webpage for constituents to reach them. Director Hart shared that Board members' email addresses are not listed as all inquiries are preferred to be funneled through the Department staff to avoid violating the open meeting law and helping to keep everything organized. Collins emphasized the importance of utilizing the town email for Board of Health purposes to avoid having your privacy compromised in the case of a legal situation.

D. Master Plan Update

Chair Judge introduced the Master Plan update as the next topic of discussion and shared that Director Hart and Collins have overseen the efforts on this. Collins noted that one of the board's assigned tasks and responsibilities included regulatory duties, in which the Board enacts, adopts, and updates regulations regularly. The rental registry, livestock, and glyphosate and glufosinate regulations were shared as examples. Therrien mentioned that Boards should be updating the report with such information to keep the plan moving along as well as to keep the public informed on the progress. Therrien also shared that challenges, issues, or setbacks should also be brought forth. Collins proposed having Ceasar generate the update utilizing the meeting minutes.

Therrioux clarified that MPIC is asking relevant boards and committees to report biannually with summarizations on progress made and barriers they have encountered. These reports will be reviewed by MPIC, planning, and Town Administration to identify reoccurring issues, potential opportunities for collaboration, and improvements that could be made. Often, budgets and lack of resources are identified as commonalities seen amongst the different groups. There are two forms of reporting regarding the Master Plan. One of them includes in person conversations with MPIC representatives on the board's progress and the other being the submission of the updated matrix.

Theroux asked if the Board has faced any challenges when trying to complete their assigned tasks and responsibilities. Director Hart shared that most of the grants coming in are targeting environmental justice groups. The Rental Registry will aid the Department in getting a better understanding of the population and potential resources that would benefit vulnerable populations. The registry would also help with future mapping of the town including the location of environmental justice groups in relation to liquor stores, grocery stores, and causes of deaths. The Rental Registry was sent to Town Counsel for review and Town Counsel added the appeal process which is usually separate.

Director Hart mentioned that several communities have asked to join the 31 communities already a part of the tobacco coalition. Limitations such as staff shortages and funding must be considered. A retail store regulation has been drafted. The regulation would mandate tobacco retail stores to establish a

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lithium battery take back program. The regulation is being reviewed by legal to check if it can be implemented seeing as the batteries are concerned hazardous wastes. Hart noted she is seeking to work with South Hadley Schools on potentially educating students and parents on mental health and addiction. Research has shown 42.7% of smokers start with depression and anxiety and can be linked to their inability to cope with negative feelings or not being appeased.

Collins also shared that the Board has faced challenges and raised the permitting issues with Skinner Woods and the 3 Corners Store as examples. Collins proposed that improvements in communication could help mitigate situations where multiple permits across various Departments are being issued. Collins mentioned that there were times when the Board of Health had strong feelings regarding a topic but no governing authority. Theroux and Therrien both replied that the Master Plan supports intersectionality and will facilitate such interactions. Therrien recalled when the Board of Health proposed provisions to the Planning Board for E-ink regarding air quality monitors that were adopted. The Board can help to signal or alert the necessary parties of such issues or things that they believe to be of valid concern. Collins agreed to update the matrix accordingly and submit it for review.

Therrien emphasized the importance of informing MPIC of the issues that the Board members encounter and proposed communication as a potential area of concern. Collins shared the progress she has witnessed as a resident in Town with communication. Hart shared the Department's methods of communicating information to the community. Therrien noted that the Board should mention anything hindering them from doing so.

Director Hart shared that the Department will be beginning a new initiative in which focus will be placed on a different chronic disease. Couture shared that the initiative would bring forth awareness and educational resources regarding emerging chronic diseases in the community. Therrien added that one of the objectives includes identifying key issues in town as it relates to diversity and inclusion. Walsh Pio highlighted the efforts of the Drug and Alcohol Coalition and their programming relative to drug use prevention amongst the youth. Hart added that the Department recently participated in the panel for the Age and Dementia friendly group, hosted Narcan training at the Senior Center, and facilitated a stop the bleed training at town hall. Hart is also working towards setting up life saving stations in town buildings and coordinating training for that as well. Therrien shared that the updated matrixes will be made public and shared with the Town Administrator, Selectboard, Planning Board, School Committee, etc.

Theroux and Therrien reiterated that boards and committees should bring forth successes and challenges that they've encountered while conducting business. MPIC is preparing to meet with the Town Administrator, Selectboard, and Planning Board to report on the status of the respective boards and committees. A common trend amongst boards and committees is the difficulty associated with

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tracking one's success and lacking the metrics to do so. Walsh Pio highlighted the importance of keeping data to prove the efficacy of implemented programs as done in the Drug and Alcohol Coalition. Theroux and Therrien thanked the Board for their time and noted they look forward to seeing and reviewing their updated matrix.

Theroux and Therrien exited the meeting.

E. PFAS Discussion

Frantz proposed enacting a regulation that would restrict the town from purchasing known PFAS products as they are very harmful. Collins added she would be willing to hear additional research on this topic. Hart noted the potential difficulty with passing such a regulation, citing budgeting barriers and legal constraints. The wastewater treatment plant is looking to begin monitoring PFAS concentration levels. Hart proposed that Frantz gather some data and present his findings at the next meeting for further consideration. Frantz agreed to do so.

F. Proclamation in Support of Asthma Awareness Month

Director Hart introduced Nurse Couture to discuss Asthma Awareness month. Couture mentioned that under the direction of Hart, she will be developing programming as a part of the Department's initiative to target chronic diseases every month. The initiative will bring forth exposure and education about common chronic diseases that are impacting the community. Couture has conducted research on the prevalence of asthma, common triggers, mitigation strategies, and outreach services available. This information will be made available on the town website. Couture has connected with officials from the town library and schools in hopes of discussing ways in which this information can be conveyed to the children and their families.

Collins noted the importance of this work as asthma can be very costly for the healthcare system. Collins shared there is a Pioneer Valley Asthma Coalition and Holyoke has recently allocated ARPA funds to acquire Healthy Home services for the city. Director Hart proposed that the Board members accept the proclamation declaring May Asthma Awareness month in sign of support of the initiative. Collins suggested adding in healthy inequity to the proclamation. Chair Judge shared he would accept a motion to accept the proclamation would the understanding that the requested information would be added. Collins made a motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. A rollcall was taken. All Board members were in consensus.

Nurse Couture left the meeting.

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G. Rental Registry- Update

Chair Judge introduced the Rental Registry as the next topic of business. Walsh Pio questioned if the regulation overlapped with the Planning Board at all. Hart noted that the Rental Registry had little crossover with the Planning Board, except verifying if the rental unit is zoned properly. Director Hart shared that the regulation was reviewed by Town Counsel and a few minor grammatical errors and appeal process were added. Collins questioned if whether the Rental Registry was supporting the landlord or the tenant from an equity lens. Director Hart and Ceasar both shared that they believed the Rental Registry helped to support both the tenant and owner, as the owner would have to attest to the standards of the unit as well as provide relative information and resources to the tenant.

Collins mentioned the difficulty that some tenants face when reporting housing issues as they fear the possibility of being homeless. Walsh Pio expressed the importance of protecting the tenants' rights against housing injustices and equity. Director Hart shared the State Sanitary Code protects tenants against the raising of rent and termination of a lease for 6 months following a report being made to the Health Department to prevent landlord retaliation. Hart highlighted that the Town Counsel modeled the appeal process found in the Sanitary Code for the rental regulation. Hart noted this would be new for the town. Ceasar prompted the Board members to vote on the issuance of the Rental Registry regulation. Collins made a motion to do so, and Walsh Pio seconded it. A rollcall was taken.

Karen Walsh Pio: Aye
Tony Judge: Aye
Jessica Collins: Aye
Stephen Frantz: Aye

All Board members were in favor.

4. Old Business:

A. Glufosinate/ Glyphosate Regulation-Sign

Hart mentioned that the regulation was previously approved with the understanding that the requested changes would be made and just needed to be signed. The Board members decided to vote on it again. A rollcall was taken.

Karen Walsh Pio: Aye
Tony Judge: Aye
Jessica Collins: Aye

Stephen Frantz: Aye

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All Board members were in consensus. Hart passed the regulations around to be signed.

3. New Business:

H. Remote Meetings- Policy and Practice

Walsh Pio shared she was interested in clarifying the remote meeting policy as she believes the state had recently issued the approval for an extension of remote meetings. Director Hart noted that the Selectboard had recently enacted a remote meeting policy and practice for the Town and suggested that the Board review it. Director Hart clarified that the Board of Health must adhere to the remote meeting policies and procedures enacted by the Select Board.

Hart reviewed the policies and procedures before the Board, noting that Board members must request the ability to participate in a Board meeting virtually in advance to the Chair with reasoning as to why being physically present would be reasonably difficult. Collins questioned if the Select Board issued this policy to ensure that constituents had access to these meetings. Hart replied she believed it was targeted more towards enabling the Board members to be present to vote on various matters. Ceasar suggested that community accessibility may have been one of the key reasons as to why the state extended their approval of hybrid and or virtual meetings.

(4) Old Business:

(B) Health Equity Policy Framework

Director Hart proposed that the Board members vote on the Health Equity Framework. Chair Judge made the motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. A rollcall was taken.

Karen Walsh Pio: Aye

Tony Judge: Aye

Jessica Collins: Aye

Stephen Frantz: Aye

All Board members were in favor.

Proposal for Next Meeting Topic

Walsh Pio proposed adding ticks as a potential topic to be discussed at the next Board meeting following the suggestion from a constituent.

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(C) South Hadley Human Rights Commission

Collins shared that although originally nominated for the position, she will be unable to fulfill that obligation at this time. She in turn suggested the appointment of a colleague of hers, Jonencia Wood. The Board members supported Collins' suggestion. Chair Judge questioned if the recommended candidate was a South Hadley resident. Collins confirmed she was not and that she was unfamiliar with the residency requirements. Hart agreed to follow up on those requirements.

(5) Set Next Meeting Date – (TBD) at 6:00 p.m. at South Hadley Library

The next meeting date was set for May 16th at 6:00 pm in the Trustees room at the South Hadley library. All present members were in consensus with the next meeting date being May 16th at 6pm at the library. There was a reminder that the Board will have to restructure at the beginning of the next Board meeting following the election results.

Discussion about the South Hadley Drug & Alcohol Coalition

Walsh Pio suggested that an update on the Coalition be added to next meeting's agenda as a topic for discussion. Chair Judge agreed to do so. Collins questioned when the youth survey results would be available for review. Walsh Pio reported that the turnaround is for the survey results is typically within two months.

7. Adjourn the meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully,

Monasia Ceasar

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ATTACHMENT A

RECORD LOCATION

BOH Meeting Minutes 01.10.23	BOH File
Director’s Report	BOH File
Glufosinate/ Glyphosate Regulation	BOH File
Health Equity Policy Framework	BOH File
Rental Registry Regulation Draft	BOH File
Master Plan Status Update Instructions	BOH File
Health Department and Board of Health Action Items	BOH File
2.14.23 Board of Health Meeting Minutes Draft	BOH File
Remote Participation Policy	BOH File
Open Meeting Law	BOH File



MASSACHUSETTS COVID-19 VACCINE PROGRAM

BULLETIN

What Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Providers Need to Know Week of 5/9/2023

Information related to the use of COVID-19 vaccines changes frequently. Please be sure to refer to the CDC's [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States](#) as your primary source for the most up-to-date information.

LATEST NUMBERS

- As of 5/9/2023 **5,949,142** people in Massachusetts have completed primary series of monovalent vaccine. However, only 2,051,258 Massachusetts residents have received the recommended bivalent booster dose.

LATEST NEWS

Updates to the CDC Clinical Considerations were made May 1st.

(At the time of this Bulletin's release, updates had not yet been made to the [FAQs](#) or the [Standing Orders](#))

On May 1, 2023, the clinical guidance for [people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised](#) was revised as follows:

- At the time of initial vaccination, people ages 6 months and older are recommended to receive 3 bivalent mRNA doses
- People ages 6 months and older who previously received only monovalent doses are recommended to receive 1 or 2 bivalent mRNA vaccine doses, depending on age and vaccine product
- People who previously received a bivalent mRNA vaccine dose(s) have the option to receive 1 or more additional bivalent mRNA doses

[CDC COCA Call, "Updated Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Use", May 11, 2023, 2:00–3:00 p.m.](#)

During this COCA Call, presenters will discuss updated COVID-19 vaccine recommendations by age group and for those with immunocompromise. They will also highlight optional COVID-19 vaccine doses for specific populations. More info and webinar link can be found [here](#).

At the conclusion of the session, the participant will be able to accomplish the following:

- Describe current recommended vaccine doses for people ages 6 years and older.
- Cite where to find in-depth tables for COVID-19 vaccines indicated for children ages 6 months through 5 years.
- Discuss the difference in recommendations for use of COVID-19 vaccines between those with and without immunocompromise.
- Name two populations who can receive an optional additional dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccines.

[COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Ending on May 11th](#)

The Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 is ending on May 11, 2023. Please note that the Public Health Emergency ending will not have any immediate impacts on your site's ability to continue to order COVID-19 vaccines. COVID-19 vaccines will still be available to order via the MIIS system for all enrolled sites with a signed MCVP Agreement. The associated EUA's for the COVID-19 vaccine formulations will still be active and hold true, even after the official Public Health Emergency ends.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q: I'm confused about when to use Moderna's vaccine formulation with the dark pink cap/label and yellow box.

A: The Moderna formulation with the 'dark pink cap/label and yellow box' is used ONLY in a very small subpopulation of children. **Moderna's 'dark pink cap/label and yellow box' formulation is only used for children 6m-5y that have already received 2 or 3 doses of monovalent Moderna.**

For most individuals, it is Moderna's 'dark blue cap/label and gray border' formulation that should be used. The 'dark blue cap/label and gray border' can be used to vaccinate people 6 months and older.

[Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#) of the CDC's Clinical Considerations contains detail on when to use each.

WHO TO VACCINATE

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for everyone ages 6 months and older in the United States for the prevention of COVID-19. There is currently no FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine for children younger than age 6 months. CDC recommends that people stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination.

See Appendices B ([People who received COVID-19 vaccine outside the United States](#)) and C ([People who received COVID-19 vaccine as part of a clinical trial](#)) for recommendations for these populations.

VACCINE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATIONS

As of April 18, 2023, the **monovalent** Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are no longer authorized for use in the U.S.

CDC recommends that people ages 6 months and older receive at least 1 bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

An overview of COVID-19 vaccination is summarized below; detailed schedules can be found in [Table 1](#) for people who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised, and in [Table 2](#) for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.

Bivalent mRNA vaccines

The number of bivalent doses varies by age, vaccine, previous COVID-19 vaccines received, and the presence of moderate or severe immune compromise.

For people who **are not moderately or severely immunocompromised**:

- At the time of initial vaccination, depending on vaccine product, children ages 6 months–4 years are recommended to receive 2 or 3 bivalent mRNA vaccine doses; children aged 5 years are recommended to receive 1 or 2 bivalent mRNA vaccine doses
- People ages 6 years and older who are unvaccinated or previously received only monovalent vaccine doses are recommended to receive 1 bivalent mRNA vaccine dose
- Most people ages 6 years and older who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised and have received 1 dose of a bivalent mRNA vaccine do not need any further vaccine doses at this time
- People ages 65 years and older have the option to receive 1 additional bivalent mRNA vaccine dose at least 4 months after the first bivalent dose

For people who **are moderately or severely immunocompromised**:

- At the time of initial vaccination, people ages 6 months and older are recommended to receive 3 bivalent mRNA doses
- People ages 6 months and older who previously received only monovalent doses are recommended to receive 1 or 2 bivalent mRNA vaccine doses, depending on age and vaccine product
- People who previously received a bivalent mRNA vaccine dose(s) have the option to receive 1 or more additional bivalent mRNA doses at least 2 months following the last recommended bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose.

Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine

People ages 12 years and older who previously received 1 or 2 monovalent Novavax COVID-19 primary series dose(s) are

recommended to receive 1 bivalent mRNA vaccine dose. The monovalent Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine remains authorized for use as a 2-dose primary series and as a booster dose in certain limited situations.

Vaccine dosage and administration

In general, CDC recommends that people receive the age-appropriate vaccine product and dosage based on their age on the day of vaccination in accordance with the recommended intervals for that age group. However, for COVID-19 vaccination there are exceptions for children who receive the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine and transition from age 4 to 5 years during the 3-dose vaccination series and children who transition from age 5 years to 6 years during the Moderna COVID-19 vaccination series (see [Transitioning from a younger to older age group](#)).

- FDA [EUA](#) requires that children who receive the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine and transition from age 4 years to 5 years during the 3-dose vaccination series must complete the series they start (i.e., receive the 0.2 mL/3 ug dosage supplied in vials with a maroon cap and label with a maroon border for all 3 doses).
- Additionally, children who transition from age 5 years to 6 years during the Moderna vaccination series should receive 2 doses of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine (0.25 mL/25 ug; dark blue cap and label with a gray border).

COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are NOT moderately or severely immunocompromised

The COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised is summarized in [Table 1](#), which should be consulted for age-specific information.

The schedule is organized by age and COVID-19 vaccination history. It provides the number of bivalent mRNA vaccine doses an individual needs based on COVID-19 vaccine doses previously received, including the number of prior doses, whether the doses were monovalent or bivalent, and the vaccine manufacturer (Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech).

Most people ages 6 years and older who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised and have received 1 dose of a bivalent mRNA vaccine do not need any further vaccine doses at this time. People ages 65 years and older who received 1 dose of a bivalent vaccine have the option to receive 1 additional dose at least 4 months after the first bivalent dose.

Considerations for people ages 65 years and older to receive an additional bivalent mRNA dose

People ages 65 years and older have the option to receive 1 additional bivalent mRNA vaccine dose if it has been at least 4 months after their first bivalent mRNA dose. The option to receive 1 additional bivalent mRNA dose may be informed by the clinical judgement of a healthcare provider, a person's risk for severe COVID-19 due to the presence of underlying medical conditions and age, and personal preference and circumstances.

COVID-19 vaccination guidance for people who ARE moderately or severely immunocompromised

To assist healthcare providers, the COVID-19 vaccination schedule for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised ([Table 2](#)) provides detailed age-specific guidance. However, the EUAs for [Moderna](#) and [Pfizer-BioNTech](#) COVID-19 vaccines allow healthcare providers flexibility for use of vaccine products, number of doses, dosage, and intervals between doses; alternative schedules within the parameters of the EUAs may be appropriate based on individual circumstances and clinical judgement.

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have the option to receive 1 additional dose of a bivalent mRNA vaccine at least 2 months following the last recommended bivalent mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose. Further additional bivalent dose(s) may be administered, informed by the clinical judgement of a healthcare provider and personal preference and circumstances. Any further additional doses should be administered at least 2 months after the last COVID-19 vaccine dose. Specific information on which vaccine formulation to use is included within [Table 2](#) and its footnotes.

People who are or who become moderately or severely immunocompromised should follow the COVID-19 vaccination schedule according to their age and immune status at the time of eligibility for that dose; see [Considerations for timing of COVID-19 vaccination in relation to immunosuppressive therapies](#) for vaccination of people who will shortly become moderately or severely immunocompromised (e.g., prior to organ transplant) and [Considerations for COVID-19 revaccination](#).

Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines

The COVID vaccination schedules within the CDC Clinical Considerations should be consulted for age-specific information.

Children ages 6 months–5 years who are unvaccinated and are recommended to receive more than 1 bivalent mRNA vaccine dose for initial vaccination should receive all doses from the same manufacturer. However, as detailed below, FDA authorization allows for administration of a mixed product series for initial vaccination in some age groups.

Authorization to use COVID-19 vaccines interchangeably from different manufacturers varies by vaccination history, age, and product as follows:

- People ages **6 months–4 years** who are unvaccinated or previously received 1 or more doses of a monovalent mRNA vaccine are authorized to receive only bivalent mRNA vaccine dose(s) from the same vaccine manufacturer.
- People age **5 years** who are unvaccinated or previously received 1 or more doses of monovalent Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine are authorized to receive either bivalent Moderna or bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
- People age **5 years** who are unvaccinated or previously received 1 or more doses of monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 are authorized to receive only bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.
- People ages **6 years and older** who are unvaccinated or previously received 1 or more doses of any monovalent COVID-19 vaccine are authorized to receive either bivalent Moderna or bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

In the following exceptional situations, a different COVID-19 vaccine may be administered (at a minimum interval of 28 days between the first and second doses) when FDA authorization requires that a vaccine from the same manufacturer be used. A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) report is not required for these exceptional situations:

- Same vaccine not available
- Previous dose unknown
- Person would otherwise not complete the vaccination series
- Person starts but unable to complete a vaccination series with the same COVID-19 vaccine due to a contraindication

Recommended actions for vaccine administration errors are found in [Appendix D Vaccine Administration Errors and Deviations](#) and in the 'Interchangeability of COVID-19 vaccines' section of the Clinical Considerations.

VACCINE MANAGEMENT

Pfizer 12+ bivalent single dose vials now available for ordering by Primary Care Provider (PCP) Sites

The Pfizer bivalent vaccine formulation for 12+ is now available in single dose vials. Due to limited quantities of this formulation, it is currently being made available only to PCP sites (pediatricians, family practices, internal medicine offices, community health centers). To add this vaccine formulation/packaging click on the "[add a vaccine](#)" button in the lower left-hand corner of the ordering screen. **SDVs will not include ancillary kits.**

Expiry Date vs Beyond Use Date (BUD)

The **expiration date** is set by the manufacturer and is the date by which the vaccine should be used. The expiration date assumes that the vaccine has been stored and handled according to the manufacturer's guidance. Expiration dates cannot change based on how vaccine is being stored or when a vial is punctured. However, on occasion, the expiration date may

80631-0102-10 COVID-19 (Novavax); MDV5; 10-pack

50

There are 2 presentations of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent. Even though vials and cartons of both presentations are labeled "BOOSTER DOSES ONLY," doses from these vials are authorized for ALL doses for individuals 6 months of age and older.

Vaccine Formulation/Presentation Guide

For eligible individuals **6 months of age and older**


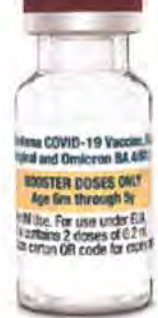
The original monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is no longer authorized for use in the United States

Verify the vials (including labels) prior to preparation and administration to help avoid dosing errors

	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5) DILUTE BEFORE USE ¹	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5) DILUTE BEFORE USE ¹	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent (Original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5) DO NOT DILUTE ¹	
Age Group	6 months through 4 years ^a	5 through 11 years ^a ("Age 5y to <12y" on vial label)	12 years and older	
Vial Cap Color	Maroon 	Orange 	Gray  	
Dose	3 mcg	10 mcg	30 mcg	
Dose Volume	0.2 mL	0.2 mL	0.3 mL	
Amount of Diluent Needed per Vial ¹	2.2 mL ¹	1.3 mL ¹	NO DILUTION	
Doses per Vial ^b	Multiple Dose Vial: 10 doses per vial (after dilution)	Multiple Dose Vial: 10 doses per vial (after dilution)	Multiple Dose Vial: 6 doses per vial	Single Dose Vial: 1 dose per vial
Storage Conditions				
Ultra-Low-Temperature (ULT) Freezer [-80 °C to -60 °C (-130 °F to -76 °F)]	18 months ^d	18 months ^d	18 months ^d	
Freezer [-25 °C to -15 °C (-13 °F to 5 °F)]	DO NOT STORE	DO NOT STORE	DO NOT STORE	
Refrigerator [2 °C to 8 °C (35 °F to 46 °F)]	10 weeks	10 weeks	10 weeks	
Room Temperature [8 °C to 25 °C (46 °F to 77 °F)]	12 hours prior to first puncture (including any thaw time)	12 hours prior to first puncture (including any thaw time)	12 hours prior to first puncture (including any thaw time)	
After First Puncture [2 °C to 25 °C (35 °F to 77 °F)]	Discard after 12 hours ^e	Discard after 12 hours ^e	Discard after 12 hours ^e	

The original monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is no longer authorized for use in the United States.
^aNotwithstanding the age limitations for use of the vaccine, individuals turning from 4 to 5 years of age during the vaccination series should receive all doses with Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent supplied in vials with maroon caps and labels with maroon borders.
^bONLY use sterile 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP as the diluent. Do not use bacteriostatic 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection or any other diluent.
^cDo not refreeze thawed vials.
^dLow dead-volume syringes and/or needles can be used to extract 10 doses from one multiple dose vial of maroon cap or orange cap vaccine or 6 doses from one multiple dose vial of gray cap vaccine. If standard syringes and needles are used, there may not be sufficient volume to extract all doses from a single vial.
^eRegardless of storage condition, maroon cap, orange cap, and gray cap vaccines should not be used after 18 months from the date of manufacture printed on the vial and cartons. Expiry information can be found at: <https://fsteigiry.cvb.vaccine.com/>.
^fAfter dilution, the vial should be held between 2 °C to 25 °C (35 °F to 77 °F). Vials should be discarded 12 hours after dilution.

Please see Important Safety Information on page 4.
 Please click or visit covidvaccine-usa.com to see the Vaccination Provider and Recipient and Caregivers EUA Fact Sheets.

Multiple-Dose Vial with Dark Blue Cap and Label with Gray Border ¹	Multiple-Dose Vial with Dark Pink Cap and Label with Yellow Box ¹
 <p>For ages 6 months through 5 years, a single dose for Dose 1 and Dose 2 is 0.25 mL each</p> <p>For ages 6 years through 11 years, a single dose is 0.25 mL</p> <p>For ages 12 years and older, a single dose is 0.5 mL</p>	 <p>For ages 6 months through 5 years, a single dose for Dose 3 is 0.2 mL</p>
<p>This formulation is used for people 6m and older</p> <p>Doses of both 0.25 and 0.5 mL can be drawn from the MDV</p>	<p>This formulation is used in only a very small subpopulation of children!!</p> <p>ONLY for kids 6m through 5y who already received 2 or 3 doses of monovalent</p>

RESOURCES & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Commercialization of COVID-19 products

HHS recently published a [question-and-answer document](#) with frequently asked questions on the commercialization of COVID-19 medical countermeasures.

Moderna's medical updates

Moderna is having live 10-minute presentations, followed by Q&A. Sign up at <https://app.livestorm.co/moderna-na-medical/regional-medical-affairs-office-hours-simplified-dosing-schedules-for-moderna-covid-19-vaccine-bivalent>

Moderna resources are expected to be posted [here](#).

Pfizer's medical updates

Pfizer has live medical update sessions. Sign up at <https://www.pfizermedicalinformation.com/en-us/medical-updates>

[Pfizer's Vaccine Formulation/Presentation Guide](#) is a document from Pfizer-BioNTech with information about the formulations and presentations of the vaccines.

EUA Fact Sheets

Once a new EUA Fact Sheet is issued, it must be used. Previous ones no longer contain accurate information.

- Moderna EUAs can be found on the FDA website [here](#)
- Pfizer EUAs can be found on the FDA website [here](#)
- Novavax EUAs can be found on the FDA website [here](#)

Standing Orders

Watch for updated standing orders: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/index.html>

Other Helpful Resources

- [AAP Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Dosing Quick Reference Guide](#)
- [CDC's Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

MDPH RESOURCES

2023 MDPH Immunization Updates

The Immunization Updates are a series of immunization-related webinars for healthcare providers, presented by the Immunization Division every spring. Registration is open – click on the links below to reserve your spot.

2023 Schedule:

- Immunization Schedule Updates
Wednesday, May 17 – [Click here to register](#)
- Vaccine Confidence - with guest speaker [Karen Ernst](#) from Voices for Vaccines
Wednesday, May 24 - [Click here to register](#)
- Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS)
Wednesday, May 31 - [Click here to register](#)
- VFC Compliance and Vaccine Storage & Handling - Earn your VFC Certificate!
Wednesday, June 7 - [Click here to register](#)
- Epidemiology of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases in Mass.
Wednesday, June 14 - [Click here to register](#)

Immunization Division Main Number

For questions about immunization recommendations, disease reporting, etc.

Phone: 617-983-6800 (24/7 MDPH Epi line)

Fax: 617-983-6840

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/topics/immunization>

MIIS Help Desk

Phone: 617-983-4335

Fax: 857-323-8321

Email questions to: miishelpdesk@mass.gov

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-immunization-information-system-miis>

MDPH Vaccine Unit

Phone: 617-983-6828

Email questions to: dph-vaccine-management@mass.gov

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/vaccine-management>

Color Help

Email questions to: colorhelp@mass.gov

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/vaccine-clinic-management-platform>

COVID-19 Email Box

Email questions to: COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov

Summary	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023
Complaints Received									
housing complaint	13	5	12	11	15	10	6	10	4
food complaint	6	10	7	2	5	6	1	3	5
COVID inquiry/reporting	2	1	1	0	0	0	0		1
animal control	9	4	9	3	2	3	3	3	4
dumpster permit	6	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	0
hauler permit	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
septic permit	1	2	5	3	3	2	0	6	7
property care complaint	1	3	0	2	1	0	2	2	1
miscellaneous	3	13	11	7	8	4	3	3	6
Total	42	40	48	30	34	26	15	30	29
Notices Issued									
housing orders		1	0	1	0	3	3	2	5
condemnations	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0
property care notices	1		0	0	0	1	0	1	4
compliance	2	1	3	1	0	5	2	4	1
educational/best practice material	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2
dumpster violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Total	4	4	3	5	0	9	6	14	15
Inspections Conducted									
food inspections	4	1	6	0	0	7	9	13	17
lodging/housing inspections	4	3	1	0	4	3	4	4	5
site observations	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	4	5
Total	10	6	7	0	4	10	15	21	57
Miscellaneous									
records requests		6	9	18	9	1	1	2	3
food plan reviews		1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1
summer camp permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Total		7	10	19	11	3	3	4	7



Jennifer Jernigan <jjernigan@southhadleyma.gov>

Fwd: Achievements and Challenges for MPIC report

1 message

Jessica Collins <jcollins@shadleyma.org>

Mon, May 8, 2023 at 2:15 PM

To: Nate Therien [REDACTED]

Cc: Tony Judge [REDACTED], Tony Judge <tjudge@shadleyma.org>, Sharon Hart

<shart@southhadleyma.gov>, Jennifer Jernigan <jjernigan@southhadleyma.gov>, Christine McKiernan

<cmckiernan@shadleyma.org>, Karen Walsh Pio [REDACTED], Stephen Frantz [REDACTED] Monasia

Ceasar <mceasar@southhadleyma.gov>

Nate, sorry this never reached you by Friday - we had it ready.

Thanks Monasia!

Nate, Please forward to MPIC.

Thank you,

Jessica

Board of Health 2022 update for MPIC

The Board of Health has achieved many things this past year that support the MPIC priorities. Here are a list of regulations that support environmental/climate change sustainability; water quality, as well as the town goal of evolving our work on diversity equity and inclusion.

List from Monasia:

The following items have been signed/enacted by the Board as of January 1, 2023:

- Health Equity Policy Framework
- Glyphosate/ Glufosinate Regulation
- Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Animals Regulation
- Rental Registration Regulation
- Proclamation in Support of Asthma Awareness Month

Challenges for moving our Board of Health priorities forward include silos in municipal bureaucracy. This isn't a South Hadley issue, but more municipal government process norms. In order to be able to engage on issues such as Special Permits, Transportation, or other related issues that do not fall under Board of Health "jurisdiction", the Board of Health has often sought to inform or provide recommendations to other Boards (Planning or Conservation in particular) whether requested or not. It would be helpful if there was some process or mechanism that would flag the Board of Health on issues that should have consideration of at large public health impact despite the actual bureaucratic process not deeming a vote from Board of Health (E-Inc is a good example of this) or Route 202 permitting issues.

Another challenge yet in the same vein as being siloed, the fact that the Selectboard approves liquor permits and Board of Health permits tobacco, though that is regulated by the State, seems like there should be some communication between the Selectboard and the Board of Health before licenses get approved. Since businesses typically might be requesting both of these types of licenses, one board should not approve with out know the status of the other board in order to best inform a business plan or business endeavor if it requires both.



Jennifer Jernigan <jjernigan@southhadleyma.gov>

Fwd: Take Action for Health Equity in the FY24 State Budget

2 messages

Sharon Hart <shart@southhadleyma.gov>

Wed, Apr 19, 2023 at 1:55 PM

To: jessica collins <jcollins@shadleyma.org>, Christine McKiernan <cmckiernan@shadleyma.org>, Tony Judge <tjudge@shadleyma.org>, Karen Walsh Pio [REDACTED], Stephen Frantz <sfrantz@shadleyma.org>, K W Pio [REDACTED], Tony Judge [REDACTED], Jennifer Jernigan <jjernigan@southhadleyma.gov>, Monasia Ceasar <mceasar@southhadleyma.gov>

Sharon D. Hart,
Emergency Management Director,
Director of Public Health
116 Main Street, M2
South Hadley, MA 01075
cell (413) 315-7307
work (413) 538-5030 x 6184
fax (413) 538-5012
shart@southhadleyma.gov

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Oami Amarasingham, MA Public Health Association** <mpha@mapublichealth.org>

Date: Wed, Apr 19, 2023 at 12:04 PM

Subject: Take Action for Health Equity in the FY24 State Budget

To: <shart@southhadleyma.gov>

Dear Sharon,

This year's state budget will be one of the most important public health measures passed in the Commonwealth. Last week, the House Ways and Means Committee released its \$56.2 billion proposal for the fiscal year 2024 state budget. The House Ways and Means Committee's FY24 budget includes funding for universal school meals, the Massachusetts Food Trust Program, housing assistance, and regional transit, among other public health priorities. Over 1500 amendments will be considered by the House as the chamber debates its budget proposal next week. We are writing to ask you to contact your State Representative and ask for their support for the following priority amendments to advance public health.

Take Action

SAPHE 2.0 ACT - Amendment #1406 by Chair Garlick & Rep. Kane

This amendment will include the [SAPHE 2.0 Act](#) in the House budget. SAPHE 2.0 will establish minimum public health standards statewide, increase local public health capacity and effectiveness through shared services, create a uniform data collection and reporting system, and increase equity in the delivery of public health services across communities. The SAPHE 2.0 act implements the unanimous recommendations of the Special Commission on Local and Regional Public Health, as well as a key recommendation of the Joint Committee on COVID-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Management's 2022 report. SAPHE 2.0 was passed unanimously last session.

Grants for Local & Regional Board of Health - Amendment #650 by Rep. Kane & Chair Garlick

The Commonwealth's decentralized approach to delivering public health services leads to extreme variability and inequities across municipalities - and this puts the entire state at risk. State funding is necessary for the Public Health Excellence Grant Program at the Department of Public Health to support 310 municipalities across 50 cross-jurisdictional partnerships. This amendment by Rep. Kane will increase funding for line-item 4512-2022 to \$20M for the next fiscal year to allow local and regional boards of health to improve public health protections across the state.

Rental Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) – Amendments #842 by Rep. Howard & #1483 by Chair Decker

Amendment #842 by Rep. Howard will increase the funding to \$250M to meet the scale of need across the Commonwealth. Amendment #1483 by Chair Decker will make RAFT more accessible and flexible, including moving the benefit upstream by prohibiting the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) from imposing a notice to quit requirement on households seeking assistance with back rent.

Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) - Amendment #843 by Rep. Howard

This amendment by Rep. Howard will increase funding to \$250 million to increase access to MRVP, help preserve affordable housing developments, and support programmatic improvement like implementing small area fair market rents and allowing vouchers to cover security deposits.

Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program -- Amendment #97 by Rep. Gregoire

The Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program is critical in the fight against tobacco in Massachusetts. It implements and enforces laws, funds local boards of health and youth and community organizations to do enforcement and education, and operates the state's quitline. Increasing the funding for the Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program will allow the program to address emerging issues while continuing its current innovative and essential work.

Healthy Incentives Program -- Amendment #265 by Rep. Kane

This amendment would include level funding for the Healthy Incentives Program (HIP) in the House budget. HIP is more important than ever this year as the state-funded emergency SNAP allotments end in June and 107 new HIP farmers come online, greatly increasing equitable access to the program across the Commonwealth.

Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty -- Amendment #1023 by Chair Decker

This amendment would raise cash assistance grants for very low-income families with children, elders, and people with disabilities by 20% for FY 24 and continue the increases until grants reach half the federal poverty level (Deep Poverty), followed by annual increases to keep up with inflation.

These amendments will advance health equity in our state. Please take a moment to contact your State Representative today and ask them to become cosponsors!

With appreciation,



Oami Amarasingham

Deputy Director

Donate Now

Massachusetts Public Health Association
(857) 263-7072 | mpha@mapublichealth.org | mapublichealth.org | [Donate to MPHA](#)

Massachusetts Public Health Association | 50 Federal Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02110

[Unsubscribe](#) shart@southhadley.ma.gov

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Sent by mpha@mapublichealth.org powered by



Christine McKiernan <cmckiernan@shadley.ma.gov>

Thu, Apr 20, 2023 at 3:24 PM

To: Sharon Hart <shart@southhadley.ma.gov>

Cc: jessica collins <jcollins@shadley.ma.gov>, Tony Judge <tjudge@shadley.ma.gov>, Karen Walsh Pio [REDACTED], Stephen Frantz <sfrantz@shadley.ma.gov>, K WPio [REDACTED], Tony Judge [REDACTED], Jennifer Jernigan <jjernigan@southhadley.ma.gov>, Monasia Ceasar <mceasar@southhadley.ma.gov>

Hi Sharon and Tony

Could we add this to our next agenda, to discuss whether we as a Board of Health would like to write a letter of support for these legislative priorities?

Thank you
Chris

On Apr 19, 2023, at 1:56 PM, Sharon Hart <shart@southhadley.ma.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

*Do not print this email unless necessary

5/11/23, 3:11 PM

southhadley.ma.gov Mail - Fwd: Take Action for Health Equity in the FY24 State Budget

TONY JUDGE, Chair
CHRISTINE MCKIERNAN, M.D., Vice-Chair
KAREN WALSH PIO, LICSW, LADC-I, Clerk
JESSICA COLLINS
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON HART, Director of Public Health

May 16, 2023

Kevin Cranston, MDiv
Assistant Commissioner
Director, Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
305 South Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Dear Mr. Cranston:

We are pleased to inform you that the South Hadley Board of Health took a vote on May 16, 2023, to allow a qualified and appropriate organization to operate a Syringe Services Program in the Town of South Hadley. Attached, you will find the minutes from that meeting to reflect the vote. We look forward to sharing further guidance with the members of the South Hadley Board of Health as to how MDPH will move to establish a program in South Hadley.

Please feel free to contact me at (413) 315-7307 or shart@southhadleyma.gov. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Sharon D. Hart
Public Health Director
Emergency Management Director
Town of South Hadley
116 Main Street, M1
South Hadley, MA 01075
shart@southhadleyma.gov
(413) 315-7307 (work cell)
(413) 538-5030 x 6184 (work)

CC: South Hadley Board of Health, members
Town Administrator, Lisa Wong

Andrea Miles, Chair
Carol Constant, Vice-Chair
Nicole Casolari, Clerk
Jeff Cyr
Renee Sweeney

Lisa Wong
Town Administrator

TO: Selectboard
From: Lisa Wong
Re: ARPA Request - BOH Support
Date: April 26, 2023

Request: \$75,000 for part time administrative position within the Health Department for three years or about \$25,000 per year from ARPA. The position would be evaluated annually to determine need. If the position is integrated into the budget, permit fees and revenue would be explored to ensure that the fees are appropriate and cover the cost of the work to administer the services. There is \$685,772.87 currently unallocated in ARPA.

The Health Department used to have a full time clerk. There also used to be additional vacant clerk positions in Town Hall that used to provide coverage. The Health Department covers a broad and important range of services that are critical to the health and safety of the community including:

- Food permitting/inspections
- Housing inspections
- Septic System review and installation
- Burial permitting
- Tobacco Control
- Health Complaints
- Animal Control
- Emergency Management
- Age/Dementia Friendly initiatives
- Mental Health

The Health Department is engaged in numerous public health partnerships, taking the lead on applying for and administering regional programs. Our Health Department also covers duties that are covered by other departments in other communities. The Health Director also serves as the Emergency Management Director. In other communities, this position may be full time and also be in another department such as a Fire Department. We want to ensure that adequate time is being dedicated to proactive emergency management preparedness as well as time to respond in the case of emergency.

This position will ensure that calls can be answered immediately and in-person assistance can be provided more consistently. The position will also assist with scanning and filing paperwork, along with taking in new information and addressing the continued increase in records requests. This allows management to spend more of their limited time focusing on strategy, policy and enforcement.

Motion: Move to approve \$75,000 in ARPA funds for the Health Department Administration Position.



Home > [Office of the Inspector General](#) > [ARPA Info from the OIG](#)

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American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Resources

Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), Massachusetts state, county, tribal and local entities are receiving federal aid to respond to the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has compiled the following rules and resources related to the American Rescue Plan Act from our Office, the federal government, other state agencies and private organizations.

Feedback



To: Selectboard
From: Town Administrator Lisa Wong
Re: Opioid Settlements
Date: May 16, 2023

The Town of South Hadley has already elected into settlements with various distributors (see attached spreadsheet) in the amount of \$1.3million to be received in allotments until 2038.

Town Meeting approved the creation of a Stabilization Fund effective July 1, 2023. Funds can be allocated as early as a tentative Special Town Meeting in the Fall of 2023 and the Annual Town Meeting in 2024.

The expenditures can be used for Opioid Use Disorder, or OUD, treatment, support programs for people with OUD in treatment and recovery, Connects to Care for people with or at risk of developing OUD, harm reduction efforts to prevent overdoses deaths or other opioid related harms, support of diversion and deflection programs and strategies for criminal-justice-involved persons with OUD, support of pregnant or parenting women and their families, including babies With Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and prevention of misuse of opioids and implementation of prevention education.

Discussion:

- Discussion of priorities
- Establish task force to make recommendations - what interests should be represented, what is their charge, expectations, length of service
- Establish avenues for receiving community feedback (to the task force or to the town directly)

Fiscal Year		Distributer	Janssen	Walgreens	CVS	Allergen	TEVA	Walmart (81,292.06 over 6 years starting FY24)
2023	80,136.28	49,273.12	8,552.88	12,044.32	10,265.96			
2024	78,921.60	25,248.60	19,954.05	7,950.06	8,184.54	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2025	89,463.50	31,602.20	15,970.78	7,950.06	16,356.11	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2026	98,015.23	31,602.20	24,522.51	7,950.06	16,356.11	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2027	105,524.32	31,602.20	32,031.60	7,950.06	16,356.11	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2028	78,343.72	31,602.20	4,851.00	7,950.06	16,356.11	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2029	83,092.27	37,167.90	4,851.00	7,950.06	15,538.96	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2030	87,681.40	37,167.90	6,176.00	12,044.32	14,708.83	9,236.28	8,348.07	
2031	78,445.12	37,167.90	6,176.00	12,044.32	14,708.83		8,348.07	
2032	72,520.67	31,243.45	6,176.00	12,044.32	14,708.83		8,348.07	
2033	51,635.84	31,243.45		12,044.32			8,348.07	
2034	51,635.84	31,243.45		12,044.32			8,348.07	
2035	51,635.84	31,243.45		12,044.32			8,348.07	
2036	51,635.84	31,243.45		12,044.32			8,348.07	
2037	43,287.77	31,243.45		12,044.32				
2038	31,243.45	31,243.45						
2039	31,243.45	31,243.45						
	1,245,754.20	562,381.82	129,261.82	156,099.24	143,540.39	64,653.96	108,524.91	81,292.06

March 9 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

I am interested in joining the newly forming Human Rights Commission. Human rights *for all* is at the core of my being. I have been an ordained minister for 39 years serving in communities a lot more diverse than South Hadley, in Phoenix, Los Angeles, and Cambridge.

My application explains some of the work I did and do. Human Rights is synonymous with my pastoral work, always asking, "Who does not have a voice? Who is out living outside the margins?"

While I am eager to participate, I would not want to take the space of someone who reflects more diversity than myself.

Thank you for considering me,

Rev. Lori J. Souder
Senior Minister at First Congregational Church of South Hadley, UCC
(Center Church)

Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Mar 8, 2023 at 11:22 A

sgmeiner@southhadleyma.gov, kmaher@southhadleyma.gov, ljacobs@southhadleyma.gov, zingram@southhadleyma.gov

Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

Step 1

Committees

Before the Selectboard or other appointing authority makes appointments, they would like to know a little about you and why you feel you could contribute to the board or committee. Please take a few minutes and complete the brief expression of interest information below and click submit to send your application for consideration.

Please Note: When submitting online, when you click the "submit" button you are agreeing to read a copy of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A "Conflict of Interest" provided by the Town Clerk, if appointed, and to the best of your abilities agree to abide by the provisions of the statute. You may receive a phone call to confirm your interest in the appointment.

Choose up to TWO From the Following: Human Rights Commission

List your board or committee choices here in the order of preference. If you selected "Other" above, please indicate which board or committee to which you wish to apply.

Please give any details regarding your interest in this appointment. In discussion with Judy Dobosh, Nate Therien, and Lisa Wong, we determined that it would be beneficial to our ongoing collaboration efforts to have a representative of Mount Holyoke College as part of the Human Rights Commission specifically.

Please Provide the Following Information

Name	Jonencia Wood
Email	[REDACTED]
Address1	50 College Street
Address2	Field not completed.
City	South Hadley
State	Massachusetts
Zip	01075
Primary Phone	[REDACTED]
Alternate Phone	Field not completed.
Cell Phone:	[REDACTED]

General Questions

Are you a registered voter in the Town of South Hadley?	
Are you a Town Meeting Member?	No
Is any of your immediate family employed by the Town of South Hadley?	No
Do you now or have you previously served in town government?	No
What skills and experience do you have? (Knowledge, other volunteer experience, employment experience, etc.)	DEI Practitioner, community builder/activator specifically in the development of marginalized representation and leadership
Please list any additional information you think may be helpful in reviewing your application.	<i>Field not completed.</i>
How did you learn of the vacancy you are applying for?	Other
If you indicated another resident or other above, please provide the resident's name or provide additional details.	Judy Dobosh, Nate Therien, and Lisa Wong
Upload a Letter of Interest	<i>Field not completed.</i>

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Online Form Submittal: Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

noreply@civicplus.com <noreply@civicplus.com>

Wed, Mar 8, 2023 at 1:01 P

sgmeiner@southhadleyma.gov, kmaher@southhadleyma.gov, ljacobs@southhadleyma.gov, zingram@southhadleyma.gov

Application for Appointment to Board, Commission, or Committee

Step 1

Committees

Before the Selectboard or other appointing authority makes appointments, they would like to know a little about you and why you feel you could contribute to the board or committee. Please take a few minutes and complete the brief expression of interest information below and click submit to send your application for consideration.

Please Note: When submitting online, when you click the "submit" button you are agreeing to read a copy of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A "Conflict of Interest" provided by the Town Clerk, if appointed, and to the best of your abilities agree to abide by the provisions of the statute. You may receive a phone call to confirm your interest in the appointment.

Choose up to TWO From the Following Human Rights Commission

List your board or committee choices here in the order of preference. If you selected "Other" above, please indicate which board or committee to which you wish to apply. Human Rights Commission

Please give any details regarding your interest in this appointment. I have always been passionate about inclusion, from using and teaching about inclusive language to learning and respecting people of color, lgbtq+, and those with different abilities. In Phoenix, 15 years ago and more, I worked among Hispanics, Blacks, Native Americans in an affordable housing community (South Ranch-a Habitat for Humanity community)). I led a social group for transgender folks in my church, consulting with the surgeon who was the highly respected. Since I have been serving Center Church, UCC for 15 years, we have become an Open and Affirming Church (lgbtq+ friendly), partnered with the Islamic Mosque of Western MA sharing book discussions and meals, and for 77 consecutive Saturdays held a racial justice vigil on our front lawn-drawing many outside of the church and as far away as Greenfield. We also held an exhibit in 2022, Voices of Resilience, which displayed women of color and their allies who have lived in the Pioneer Valley. Personally. My oldest is non binary and married to someone who is non binary. I look beyond the outside into someone's heart, mind, and soul. We are all equal. No buts!

SH needs to give more attention to Human Rights. We no longer can hide under a bushel.

Please Provide the Following Information

Name Lori Souder

Address1	311 Hadley St
Address2	Field not completed.
City	South Hadley
State	MA
Zip	01075
Primary Phone	[Redacted]
Alternate Phone	[Redacted]
Cell Phone:	[Redacted]

General Questions

Are you a registered voter in the Town of South Hadley?	Yes
Are you a Town Meeting Member?	Yes
Is any of your immediate family employed by the Town of South Hadley?	No
Do you now or have you previously served in town government?	No
What skills and experience do you have? (Knowledge, other volunteer experience, employment experience, etc.)	Please read why I am interested in the Human Rights Commission. As a minister for 39 years I walked in the 30,000 march in Phx @ 2006 for rights for undocumented workers, was a member of a clergy group that spoke up for lgbtq+ rights, and my work for social justice is paramount in my life. Weekly I dress racism and phobias in study groups, sermons, and in our church's outreach. Before our 77 consecutive Saturdays for racial justice, we held vigils for Human Rights the first Saturday of the month.
Please list any additional information you think may be helpful in reviewing your application.	Nothing deters me from speaking the truth.
How did you learn of the vacancy you are applying for?	Other
If you indicated another resident or other above, please provide the resident's name or provide additional details.	Town Meeting and Carol Constant
Upload a Letter of Interest	March 9 2023-Human Rights Commission.docx

[Quoted text hidden]