

Shutesbury Board of Health
August 4, 2021, 7 pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Catherine Hilton, chair; Wm Levine, Arleen Read, Garrett Simonsen, board members.

Minutes of the meeting of July 21 approved,

Actions taken:

6 Carver Road, DWCP, permit # 2021-0801 issued. LUA for separation to groundwater.

56 Wendell Road, review of compliance order. Owner has requested a 30-day extension to the August 1 deadline for providing a timeline for demolition, citing poor health and difficulty in getting contractors to call back. The board agreed to grant the extension but to insist that the windows be boarded up on the ground floor within two weeks. We will also follow up with possible suggestions for getting help with this.

Recommendations for Lake Wyola Association membership meeting: The board strongly prefers using the tent rather than the Association building. If the meeting is held indoors, we recommend that all attendees wear face coverings regardless of vaccination status and that social distance be maintained between households.

Discussion:

PFAS testing program: PFAS has been found in a well fairly far out on Pelham Hill Road; this was not anticipated by DEP, and there is no known site of contamination. According to Caprice Shaw, who is in charge of the DEP site investigation, additional testing will probably be done in that area next week. It

was agreed that the board will set up a closed NDS group for people to share information and experiences with filtration.

Denial of mosquito spray opt-out request: it appears that EEA rejected out of hand all applications in towns of “moderate” risk, apparently based on last year’s determination. This year’s risk level is still classified as “remote.” Jo Comerford’s office is looking into this. No action taken or possible.

The EDS focus group will take place on Thursday, August 12, at 11:00 am. Brief discussion of how Shutesbury’s response to COVID took place largely at the level of the Board of Health, not the EDS team.

Arleen will have a check-in meeting with school personnel prior to school’s reopening. It was determined that decisions about mask-wearing are made by DESE and not subject to modification by the Board of Health.

Garrett and Norene will bring up the question of a shelter plan at the next meeting of the Emergency Management Team. Information about such a plan should be disseminated in the town newsletter, ideally in September.

There have been no COVID cases in Shutesbury for a long time.

Adjourn 8:10