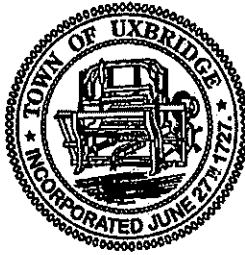


Dr. David Tapscott, Chairman
Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair
Dr. Cay Denherder, Member
Erin Hightower, Director
Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF HEALTH**
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Uxbridge, MA 01569
508-278-8600 ext. 8
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Minutes of the Uxbridge Board of Health hybrid meeting held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 5:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
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REC'D URB TOWN CLERK
2022 JUN 9 am 3:57

Present: David Tapscott, Chair; Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair; and Dr. Cay Denherder, Member
Also present, Erin Hightower, Health Director; Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector; Moe Guilbault Barn and Animal Inspector

Dr. David Tapscott, Chair participated remotely.

Meeting called to order: The time being 5:00 PM and a quorum present, Vice Chair Dr. Joann Lindenmayer called the meeting to order.

1. Aeternum Tattoo

Kaitlin told the board the establishment permit is done and documents are in order. Dr. Lindenmayer asked if there were any questions for Eric Simonsons-Vader. Hearing no questions Dr. Lindenmayer request a motion.

Dr. Cay Denherder made a motion that we accept the application for Aeternum Tattoo practitioner's license. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. Cay Denherder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

2. Citizen Request – follow up discussion on animal permit for William Ward (A. Knapik)

Paul Knapik is representing his parents Aline and Walter Knapik of 90 William Ward Street. He is just following up the discussion from the last meeting. Dr. Lindenmayer asked Kaitlin Donahue and Moe Guilbault Barn and Animal Inspector to respond.

Kaitlin said an application was submitted for review. Moe is going to be reviewing the application. Mr. Knapik did have a question regarding the notification of abutters. To his knowledge his parents have not been notified of the application. Apparently, the applicant notified people by mouth but Article 9 requires abutters be notified by certified mail.-

Erin Hightower, Health Director said the intention was that if there was an issue, abutters would request a hearing with the board of health. The way it is written is confusing. Mr. Knapik is asking that the board have a hearing and let their grievances be heard with this application.

Mr. Knapik said the permit that was issued by this board may not have followed the process that's spelled out in Article 9 and -questions the validity of the permit that was issued. Mr. Knapik asked what will be the process now. Dr. Lindenmayer said she will have to talk with town counsel about the time requirement for abutters to respond.

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Mr. Peter Demers did make some comments and asked if a plot plan and written management plan were submitted as part of the permitting process. They have been submitted.

Ms. Theresa Grelewicz attended via zoom and had a very hard time hearing the discussions. Dr. Lindenmayer suggested she contact the office tomorrow and talk to Kaitlin or Erin. According to Article 9 a new application is needed and one was submitted yesterday. Ms. Grelewicz has 14 days to notify abutters who have the right to comment on the animal keeping permit. If there are any concerns then the Board can hold an administrative hearing. Erin told her to contact the assessor's office to find out who the abutters are.

COVID updates

Clinics

There was a small booster clinic held at the senior center. Pfizer and Moderna were offered. There is still some dose in the vaccine refrigerator and Erin is working with Ann from Salmon VNA to do another clinic for 12 and older.

Vaccination

In Uxbridge 63% of individuals are vaccinated. 30% have received a booster dose.

Dr. Lindenmayer read a PowerPoint presentation she prepared

Public Comment Regarding Dr. Tapscott's Survey:

Dr. Joann Lindenmayer reads email responses. Please see the attached.

Discussion and/or vote regarding mask mandate for indoor public spaces

Dr. Lindenmayer opened the discussion by stating that the Board makes these decisions based on data and not on individual opinions. The case numbers are down in town and regionally. A small number of businesses and organizations affected by the mask mandate responded to a survey, and the results were reviewed. The efficiency of various masks, the latest CDC guidance, and the importance of getting vaccinated were discussed.

Dr. Cay Denherder made a motion that we rescind the mask mandate and replace it with strong advisory that everyone wear a mask especially those who are vulnerable to hospitalization or death from infection.

Dr. Cay Denherder withdrew her motion. She made a motion they move to citizen's forum. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. Cay Denherder – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye,

The board listened to two residents regarding their opposition to the mask mandate. Jennifer Lapiro stood up to speak and Sherrylee Burke attended via zoom.

Dr. Cay Denherder made a motion that we rescind the mask mandate and replace it with strong advisory that masks are worn in public indoor spaces especially those who are high risk. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. Cay Denherder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

Monthly Reports:

Health Director Erin Hightower – Please see the attached.

Health Inspector Kaitlin Donahue – Please see the attached

Board Members

Minutes of the Uxbridge Board of Health meeting held hybrid Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

Dr. Tapscott gave his report. He's been working with the Blackstone Waster Shed collaborative. A Blackstone Valley-wide clean-up for August, on the 50th anniversary of the original ZAP cleanup was mentioned,

Dr. DenHerder gave her report. She did assist at the covid clinic at the senior center. She continues to do research on covid rates, variants, and treatments. She regularly attends DPH meetings and Blackstone Watershed Collaborative meetings. She has responded to several emails mainly about the mask mandate.

Dr. Lindenmayer gave her report. She too attends the Blackstone Watershed Collaborative meetings. She's in the middle of creating a PowerPoint presentation for the selectmen on the 14th of February for MVP project. She keeps up on the latest covid-19 issues. She has discussed with Health Department staff issues regarding Article 9, the keeping of animal regulations.

Recycling/Trash- Erin talked about a survey that was done in 2018 about having a town wide trash and recycling program. The program was opposed at Town Meeting but DEP is encouraging us to look into it again. So, another survey went out to gather more current information from residents.

Shared Service Grant Update (BVPPH) - Erin said there are two shared service inspectors. They are extremely helpful. They are doing various projects and research. Also, we have interviewed and hired a shared public health nurse and epidemiologist. The top candidates accepted the positions.

Overall Grant Update

- MVP –Dr. Lindenmayer meets with the selectmen on the 14th of February.
- Green Communities – The Board has delegated the work to the Central MA Regional Planning Commission. The upcoming grant focuses on ventilation issues in the schools
- Air Quality Monitoring – Kaitlin said we did receive the grant. The five units will be placed at the schools, town hall and library. This will not be used for data collection with DEP.

Approval of meeting minutes

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to approve meeting minutes for August 26, 2021 and September 1, 2021. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to approve meeting minutes for September 9, 2021. Dr. David Tapscott seconded with correction and the motion was passed with a vote of 2-0-1. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – abstained was not at the meeting,

Dr. David Tapscott made a motion to approve meeting minutes for December 1, 2021. Dr. Joann Lindenmayer seconded and the motion was passed with a vote of 2-0-1. – Dr. David Tapscott – aye Dr. Joann Lindenmayer aye, Dr. Cay DenHerder– abstained was not at the meeting,

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to approve meeting minutes for January 12, 2022. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye,

1. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: *Dr. Cay DenHerder moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:07pm. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0-0. Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr. Joann Lindenmayer – aye, Dr. Cay Denherder - aye*


David Tapscott, Chair

Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair


Cay DenHerder, Member