Minutes of May 23, 2022 - Ayer Board of Health Meeting
Location: 1st Floor Meeting room, Ayer Town Hall
Meeting was recorded and broadcast by APAC

Members Present: Patricia Peters, Acting Chairman and Pam Papineau

Also Present: Heather Hampson, Administrative Coordinator

Absent: Stephen Slarsky

Acting Chairman P. Peters opened the meeting at 5:39PM

At 5:39 PM P. Papineau made a motion to have P. Peters be the acting Chairman this evening since S. Slarsky was absent from the meeting. P. Peters seconded. Unanimous vote to approve. (2-0-0)

At 5:40PM P. Papineau read allowed the wording for Executive Session under MGL c.30A, Sec. 21A Exemption#3.

At 5:41 PM P. Peters made a motion to enter executive session. P. Papineau seconded. No discussion. Vote by roll call vote: P. Peters, aye; P. Papineau, aye.

At 5:47 PM the open session of the Board of Health reconvened

Public Input
There was no one present for public input.

Discussion, Jenna Montgomery, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, Harm Reduction/Syringe Services Program

Present: Jenna Montgomery, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, Jane Carpenter and Nate Erwin from HEALingCommiunities Study/ Boston Medical Center and Avik Chatterjee, M.D. from HEALingCommunities Study/Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program

J. Montgomery had a slide show presentation on the Harm Reduction/Syringe Services Program that is offered by the Department of Public Health (DPH). In that presentation J. Montgomery gave a brief background on the program, where it is currently running throughout the state, how it operates, how it helps and how the town can get the program stated in the area. J. Montgomery mentioned that the HEALingCommunities has been working in the area of Townsend and Shirley to distribute live saving overdoes kits but unfortunately the program is ending in June. The state ruin Syringe Services Program (SSP) will help fill a need once the program ends. The SSP program offers free testing for HIV and Hepatitis, concealing, syringe exchange as well as a safe place for people that are in need. J. Montgomery also showed the Board a map of the state that has

existing mobile and storefront SSP clinics that showed an extremely under serviced area in north central mass for these types of services. J. Montgomery stated that the SSP service is offered through DPH at no cost to the town and requires that the board vote to enter into the program and fill out a form to send the DPH to get the program started.

The Board had quite a few questions regarding the program including frequency of a mobile unit and who and how they operate. The Board did state that the program sounds wonderful and would be a great benefit to the Town.

J. Montgomery suggested that another meeting take place with the Board in which they can try to invite one of the companies that operate a mobile unit in the western part of the state to help answer the Boards questions.

The discussion will be continued the next meeting.

NABOH Update
B. Braley stated that she conducted a housing inspection and is working with the owner to correct any issues, the Parks Department was issued their food license for prepackaged foods, a permit was issued to decommission a well at 11 Willow Road, and there were two food inspection reports for Family Dollar and G.W. Archer.

COVID-19 Update
B. Braley stated that the positive cases have been increasing but did not have the exact numbers from the state.
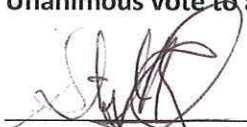
Minutes May 9, 2022
At 6:53 PM P. Papineau made a motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2022, as presented. P. Peters seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (2-0-0)

Administrative Items
Silent Springs

Adjourn:
P. Papineau motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM, and P. Peters seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (2-0-0)

_____
Steve Slarsky, *Chair*

_____
Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Hampson, *Administrative Coordinator*