

## MINUTES OF FOOTHILLS HEALTH DISTRICT HELD DECEMBER 21, 2021

ATTENDANCE: Mike Kurland, Fran Fortino, Mike Archbald, Katch Bacheller, Robby Armenti, Donna Gibson, Helen Symons, Mark Bushee

Meeting started at 6:30 PM.

Minutes from 10/22/2021 meeting were passed unanimously.

Mark reported that the new budget reflects level funding for the Foothills towns. He is in the process of tweaking the PHE budget. He is increasing Niki's hours by shifting around the PHE budget as we have more money available due to lower insurance costs. The Budget was passed unanimously. He stated that retirement costs will be increasing. We need to discuss increasing cost of living increases for next year. Phase 3 assessment is done. Results will be in within 3 months and DPH staff will then meet with us. Fran will send out a meeting request when we have a date.

Mark will follow up on tobacco funding. Mark will get a digitization update from the vendor. He reported that renewals online are ongoing. Residents are getting use to the system. Mark reported that Niki passed the septic testers test. We will pay for the retest. We need to discuss having a policy on payment for retests.

Mike Archbald attended a national public health nurse conference in Boston. He has been involved in the Western Mass public health group and with FRCOG group. He has helped various agencies and organizations.

Current reported COVID numbers- Goshen -1, Whately- 0, Williamsburg- 4, Westhampton-0

There was discussion of opioid programming with State money. We need to discuss pooling of funds.

Bylaw revisions were passed unanimously.

There was discussion of an increased liability requirement.

Katch will join the Finance Committee.

Mark noted that the septic code says that PH input is necessary for building permits. He also reported that free COVID test kits from the State have been ordered and are mostly in.

Fran noted that Racial Equity training is available for Boards through PHE in March. We will schedule a meeting for training. We will have another FHD meeting in May.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Minutes taken by Michael Kurland.