

RICHMOND BOARD OF HEALTH  
ZOOM MEETING TUESDAY August 4th, 2020

**Members present** Tony Segal-Chair, Louise Maron, Peter Cohen, Fred Schubert, Emilee Jarret-community nurse, John Olander-Agent, Ed Fahey-alliance agent Claudia Ryan-recording secretary

**Members absent** Andrew Fisher

**Others present from school-** Peter Dillon-superintendent, Jill Pompei-Principal, Diane Piraino-school doctor, Rachel Kranz, Joy Mullen Audience- Rick Bell, Robert Mason

1. Dr. Segal opened the meeting at 5pm. He asked the members if there were anything questions about. No members had any questions so he made a motion to approve the minutes, it was seconded by Fred Schubert and pass unanimously.

**2. Old Business**

Tony Segal asked Jill Pompei to explain what the opening plans are for the school. She stated that the state is has given the schools an extra 10 days before they must open for students. The school is planning on having staff come into the school on August 27 and then have the students start on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>. The school has given the state their reopening plans and have posted them on their website. The plans are definitely a work in progress depending on what happens with Covid. The plans that they have created take health and safety of both students and staff as the priority.

The school at this time is planning on a hybrid model of schooling (some in class, some remote). Full in class not possible for a variety of reason, one being the ability to bus to the school all students on the same day.

The plan is for there to be 2 groups, cohort A & cohort B, each group would go for two days in class learning and 3 days of remote learning. This allows one day with no one in the school for a deep sanitizing cleaning of the entire building. All students and teachers will stay within their own small groups. The school will follow state periodicals for music, art and other extra-curricular studies. The students and teacher will be given outdoor mask breaks and while inside windows will be opened and students will be socially distant from each other. The ventilation system has been inspected and gotten a good review. Tents for outdoor leaning might be set up. A covid room will be set up in case anyone is suspected of being sick. Markers will be placed on floors to designate 6 ft intervals. These plans are all based on the conditions that are present at this time, if the situation changes the plans could change.

Peter Cohen asked about busing of the students. The board was told that the school sent out a questionnaire concerning how many parents were planning on having their children bussed to school. The results were about 30% of the eligible students are planning on using the buses. Dufor bus company does have protocols set up that they will be using for all of their school buses.

Jill Pompei stated that she is very proud of the way her staff handled the remote teaching last spring with out any preplanning. They plan on using the Canvas Learning System for the new school remote learning system. It incorporates live and prerecorded lessons.

Dr. Piraino stated that all parents will have to fill out a health form for their children daily, so will the staff.

Joy Mullen, head of teacher's association, is very worried about any in school teaching. That until there is a vaccine and most of the faculty and students have been vaccinated that the risk for both faculty and students and their families is too great for any in building schooling.

It takes 5-7 days at this time for test results to get back so the idea of contract tracing if a student or staff member is infected is too long for in school learning. There is no place in Berkshire county that at

RICHMOND BOARD OF HEALTH  
ZOOM MEETING TUESDAY August 4th, 2020

this time can do 72-hour test results. She also mentioned about what would happen after vacations, if students, parents, staff went away would a 14day quarantine be required.

**The Beach**

There haven't been any recent problems with the beach. Everyone has been keeping socially distant. The one issue is the time of day after the lifeguards leave. Peter Cohen made a motion to have the beach close and the gate closed at 5:30 daily, at this time the gate is locked at dusk. It was seconded by Louise Maron, it passed but not unanimously, Fred Schubert voted no.

**Camp Russell**

Tony Segal mentioned to the board that someone associated with the camp tested positive for covid. Nothing more could be said since it was an open meeting. The camp is still open.

**New Business**

Mr. Bill Hydon has requested that the Board of Health only require a new tank be put in instead of a whole new system. His house burned down February 28,2019. A Title 5 was done and it did not pass due to the high- water level. He needs a new system prior to rebuilding his house. John Olander stated that if his leach field is still working properly, he is fine with just replacing the tank. John Olander said he would contact Bill Hydon. This will be continued to the next meeting.

Bob Mason is a resident of 317 Cone Hill Road. He recently had a well inspection done and was informed that 10 years ago the wells that are within a distance of 1500ft. from the old landfill located on Cone Hill Road were tested for many different forms of contaminants. His home and well is actually one of the closest to the site. The tests were paid for by the town. His well was not tested because at the time of testing no one was living in the home. He is requesting that the town pay for the testing of his well. He did research and it will cost \$1450.

Peter Cohen stated that the Board of Health should not be responsible for paying for it. He thinks it is a good idea for it to be done and the town pay for it but not out of the BOH budget.

Rick Bell who did have his water tested 10 years ago stated he would like to his retested.

Tony Segal asked John Olander to speak to the DEP and find out if new tests should be done after 10 years. The board asked Claudia Ryan to find out how the previous tests were paid for.

This discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

**Other Items arising after posting of this notice**

Bartlett's Orchard did a self-inspection for their seasonal employee housing, Farm Labor Camp. They passed inspection.

Hilltop Orchards: Ed Fahey said that there is a major issue with their septic, sewage systems. John Olander stated that both are failed systems. Title 5's were done due to an anticipated sale of the property which never happened.

**Agents Report**

John Olander read his report of the work and hours he has put in during the past month.

John Olander stated that the town is out of recycle bins for residents.

Peter Cohen made a motion to purchase a palate of bins. It was seconded by Louise Maron and passed unanimously.

RICHMOND BOARD OF HEALTH  
ZOOM MEETING TUESDAY August 4th, 2020

The next meeting is Tuesday night September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Tony Segal made a motion to adjourn at 6:45pm, it was seconded by Peter Cohen and passed unanimously

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Tony Segal-Chair

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Date