

PERU BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Monday October 24, 2022, 10:00 AM

Community Room 3 E Main Rd

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM
2. Roll call: present Nanette Mone, Peggy White, Darryl Darby and Ed Fahey, Health Agent.
3. Nanette recording.
4. Bonny DiTomasso is now available to counsel people who need drug plans renewed through Dec. 7, 2022. She had overseen the SHINE program at Elder Services but retired. Bonny has since re-certified and is trained to do SHINE work. The training has to be updated every year and takes 50 hours. She is focused on the drug coverage for now. After open enrollment, she will deal with other issues such as evaluating the various insurance plans out there. For instance, the plans that advertise zero payments are for people who are relatively healthy and for the additional benefits offered such as dental coverage. If your health is such that you might have to go to the hospital 2 or 3 times in a year, without coverage you would be liable for \$1,600.00 each time. Extended care could be a serious financial burden and not sustainable without insurance. Another consideration is that original Medicare has more flexibility for doctors and public skilled nursing (which is "huge"). Her contact information is on the Peru town website or from Elder Services. Look for a sign at the community room as well. She hopes to get the word out by attending the BOH meeting. Discussions are private and confidential. She has a list of those 60 and older. Some younger persons may also qualify. Bonny will come to your home or speak by phone which is easier.
5. A motion was made to approve minutes from August 15, 2022. All in favor. A minor correction was made to the minutes from 9/12/2022. "Title" was changed to "Title V". A motion then was made to approve as amended those minutes. All in favor.
6. Ed 's report: (see attached) Further discussion regarding the trailer at 36 South Road revolved around the BOH concerns such as proper disposal of gray water and potentially requiring a temporary housing permit (as defined in the health department regulations and having no bearing on zoning). Ed Fahey had sent a letter to the owner and she had responded that there is a composting toilet but it appears that the gray water is the issue still. The owner stated that she plans to be there at vacation times, on some weekends and possibly during the winter. Although there is no zoning rule on whether trailers can be there or for how long, the BOH temporary housing permit gives structure to enforce the board's health concerns, now and in the future. Ed will do an inspection at 36 South Rd and report back to the board at the next meeting. And then decide on any conditions to be imposed with the permitting process. Regarding 127 E. Windsor Road, Ed had emailed the person at Hilltown CDC and found that said fellow was gone. Ed will have to physically follow up and find out who is now responsible for processing the application. This has happened twice before so it is no longer possible to entertain the septic installation this year. Ed has stated that there is no imminent hazard and that it is a technical failure. A motion was made to rescind the Nov 1, 2022 deadline based on Ed's inspection. The board will take this up again in the spring. All in favor.
7. The flu clinic on October 15, 2022 in the community room was very successful. 100 shots were given and some people got the bivalent covid booster as well. The senior flu shot was available too. The

- harm reduction service has been very successful as well. People have been using the needle disposal service; this will continue through the winter. The van will still come on the second Wednesday of the month; however, the time will be reduced to between 1PM and 2PM. Peggy is preparing a flyer.
8. With regard to the Rural Health Equity grant, their board has approved an initial \$300.00 which will be used to send out the survey mentioned previously. Peggy spoke to Anna and Caryn to set up a separate account for the money when it arrives (they sent a check in the mail). Peggy put a notice in the Live Wire that the surveys will be mailed out soon.
 9. With regard to the well regulation discussion, Nanette said that she decided to go forward with the process. Nanette said that if the State did enact regulations, her concerns, particularly about unintended consequences, would become moot. Peggy pointed out that a clause in the regulations does allow for the BOH to make a decision in an individual case. A motion was made to go forward with developing well regulations and set up another day discuss how we will go through the process. All in favor. The board members will be reading over regulations from a couple of towns to be ready to discuss at length at that meeting. Peggy and Darryl attended a zoom seminar on the steps that need to be taken to accomplish this.
 10. Covid update: We still have a good supply of the test kits. Peggy has been delivering them to the compactor site, to the library and to the town hall. The kits are being used regularly. She also brought some of the kits to the recent flu clinic. Peggy will take an offer of more when available.
 11. Firehouse update: Jesse said that Bruce has taken charge; everything has been approved except the hydrofracking. Jesse is waiting to hear back from Charlie Henshaw. The work will be raising the case, sealing the head, installing a new tank and water filters. How this works will decide if scoping is needed. Ed said that the water should be tested after a couple months. Darryl said that he was set to test the water in the spring anyway. The board has money in the budget for that purpose.
 12. Peggy and Nanette attended the September Governors board meeting. The Alliance has a new inspector and planner. There is a project ongoing in the town of Washington to determine whether to charge a flat fee for inspectional services or to charge according to the work done. The public health nurse did do a combined health fair & flu clinic in Egremont. Peggy had made a suggestion for Peru, but there is no feedback yet. The Alliance has earned a significant amount of money from hosting the covid clinic. Also discussed is the possibility of changing the contracts with member towns to three years instead of the current one year. There are a number of grants pending including a mini grant. This provides for up to \$3,000.00 for a variety of items and services, including training fees. The board will take up this topic in more detail next meeting. For now, a motion was made to apply for training money for Peggy and Darryl. All in favor.
 13. The next meeting will be November 14, 2022 at 10AM in the community room. The agenda will include Ed Fahey's report as needed, the mini grant and possible survey returns, but mainly this meeting is for the well regulation process discussion.
 14. A motion was made to adjourn at 11:40 AM. All in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted as a draft by Nanette Mone 11/13/2022

Approved _____

11-14-22

Nanette Mone

Nanette Mone

Peggy White

Peggy White

Darryl Darby

Darryl Darby

Article attached: Ed Fahey's September report

RECEIVED

NOV 17 2022

Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU