



# CITY OF HALLOWELL

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## Hallowell Board of Health Meeting Minutes March 26, 2020

**Officials in Attendance:** Drs. Anette Beyea, Scott Schiff-Slater, and Sid Sewall; Nate Rudy

### **No Formal Agenda – this is the first meeting of the newly formed Board of Health**

This Board of Health is an official City entity, formed under Maine state statute **Title 22 Section 453. Local board of health**, which states:

Any municipality may appoint, in addition to the local health officer, a board of health consisting of 3 members besides the local health officer, one of whom shall be a physician if available in the community, and one a woman. When first appointed members of the board shall be appointed one for one year, one for 2 years and one for 3 years. Subsequent appointments shall be for 3-year terms.

The local health officer shall be secretary ex officio of said board and keep a record of all proceedings. The local board of health shall constitute an advisory body to the local health officer.

Introduction – participants introduced themselves and their fields of practice. Dr. Beyea is a gerontology specialist, Dr. Schiff-Slater is a family medicine practitioner in Hallowell, and Dr. Sewall is a pediatrician. Nate Rudy will host meetings as the City's Health Officer.

Discussion of Community Resources – the Board identified community resources and concern for immuno-compromised people and high-risk groups including older people. Sara Grant was identified as a source of resources for older people, as was Rep. Charlotte Warren who is maintaining a list of volunteers to help older people access food deliveries and other resources.

One challenge to volunteerism is that many volunteers are older / retired people, who are in an at-risk group. How will this gap be filled to maintain services like Meals on Wheels?

Concern was raised about the safety of grocery shopping with respect to virus transmission, and that curbside / to-go grocery orders have been halted at Hannaford.

Concern was raised about stress on families and increased child abuse due to changing domestic situations including schools being closed, parents adjusting to homeschooling, and job losses.

Dr. Beyea noted that the Governor of New Hampshire had issued a stay-at-home order.