Manchester Board of Health

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, October 17, 2019

Town Hall Room #5 at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Beverly Melvin, Paula Filias, Peter Colarusso, Deb Bradley

Members absent:

Paula Filias

Also present:

Public Health Nurse Colleen Brown (5:07 p.m.), Tom Kehoe from the Halloween Committee, Town Administrator Greg Federspiel

Members called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

For Discussion

Mosquito Control, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and Outdoor Activities:

Member Deb Bradley presented her review and recommendations from the Northeast Mosquito Control and the Mosquito Control Commissioners as they relate to outdoor activities. Included in the recommendation was that a hard frost of 28 degrees for 2 hours or more over 2 days (or 1 day with 4 hours). Members reviewed the weather forecast for Halloween. Deb Bradley stated that in her medical opinion, you do not take chances with lethal or debilitating illness, but rather use an abundance of caution with children. She informed members that she had reviewed information from other communities regarding Halloween celebrations, including Methuen (3-6 pm trick or treating), Andover (4-6 pm trick or treating and Spencer (5:30-6:30 pm trick or treating, then indoor activities). Tom Kehoe read from his 10/17 Manchester Cricket article, where he recommended that trick or treating activities end at 6:00 p.m. and providing a link to information on personal protection against mosquitoes.
On a motion by Deb Bradley and seconded by Beverly Melvin, members voted the following unanimously:

*Trick or treating does not extend after 6:00 p.m. due to the risk of mosquito exposure to EEE and further, that as stated previously, until there is a hard frost, residents should use precautions.*

*On a motion by Deb Bradley and seconded by Beverly Melvin, members voted unanimously to amend the time frame to 5:30 p.m.*

Member Deb Bradley agreed to draft the notice to provide to the Halloween Committee and Board of Selectmen Assistant Sonja Nathan.

Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

As submitted,

Ellen Lufkin

Administrative Assistant