

Town of Somers
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Thursday, Jan 6th, 2022
8:00 A.M.
Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Emergency Management Director Glen Reynolds at 8:00

II. Members present: Glen Reynolds Todd Rolland, John Roache, Dan Thayer, Karen Hocking, Pete Debrino and Anne Cournoyer

Also in attendance were: Tim Keeney, Stephanie Levin, Andrea Vitrano and Paula LaFrance

Members Absent: Bill Meier, Brian Czapla, and Rob O'Connor

III. OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 Update:

Health Update via Steve Jacobs last email dated 12/31: Well – I wish I could tell you that things are getting better. We have hit an all-time high for cases this past week with the new variant spreading like crazy. We had 43 case reported last week bring the rolling avg. to 46.4/100K. Vaccination rates are CT: 74.5% Somers: 60.9%. We have also hit the sad milestone of over 1K cases: Somers: 1026 DOC: 471.

John Roache: Test kit distribution issues with the state. Big public campaign and build up only to have deal fall through and the towns did not get what they were promised. We did get about 500 on NYE that we distributed the next day. Working with Glen to clean up past years EMPG grants

Todd Rolland: DPW is in full winter mode. Having some issues with Covid among employees. December had 7 winter events. EOC has been fully moved to the FD

Stephanie Lavin: State distributed masks and tests to schools. Policy set up for distribution of tests (through nurses office) Each teacher received 2 masks. There was a large spike of cases reported over winter break. SES – 70, MBA - 15/17, HS – 30. The screen and stay policy has been suspended for now. New guidance is positive test = out 5 days. Received a call Christmas Eve that the boiler at the high school was down. It needs to be replaced and there is a rental boiler on site.

Allison Maynard (via email): 1st, 2nd and booster vaccine clinic on 12/20 and had 154 residents get vaccinated increasing our town vaccination rate to 60.9% (we had first dose folks there too which was great).

As far as Social Services goes, we have seen 133 households for Energy Assistance which will help them cover their heating costs for the winter. Provided toys to 98 kids this holiday season. Lastly, our most recent new initiative is to increase access to food for residents. We have partnered with Access Agency to provide a monthly mobile food pantry at Kibbe and we are working in collaboration with MBA to provide hygiene products, snacks and other food to students and families at the school. We are currently doing a weekly drop off of food to the school.

IV New Business

Karen Hocking: CERT had a meeting in November, no meeting December due to holiday. At the latest CROG meeting Red Cross recommended not to have congregate sheltering during Covid. We will have to review and adjust our policy if a shelter is needed.

Tim Keeney: Announced the following as new staff members of the town – Andrea Vitrano Sanitarian, Danielle Urban Clerk in the Treasures office, David Marti Town Clerk.

V Approval of Minutes:

Dan Thayer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2nd, 2021 meeting, Todd Rolland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed.

VI Adjournment

Motion made by Dan Thayer to adjourn, Todd Roland seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 A.M.

Minutes not official until approval at next meeting