

TOWN OF ISLESBORO, HEALTH CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING - November 19, 2015, 3:30 PM, Town Office Meeting Room

Members present: Sharon Ashley, Linda Gillies, Michael Kerr (chair), Myra Rolerson, Derreth Roberts, David Runnion-Bareford

Members absent: Charlotte Mitchell, Brenda Thomas

Others present: Janet Anderson, Dorie Henning, Dr. Steele

Mike Kerr called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm. A quorum was established.

Upon MOTION made by and seconded, the minutes for the annual meeting of September 17, 2015 were approved as written.

Administrator's Report (Janet Anderson was not present at the September 17th meeting to give her annual report).

- Maura Michael has resigned from the HCAB, for because of a change in her schedule, she will be unable to attend the regular Thursday meetings.
- In the published announcement of Michael Steven's death in October, his family suggested that contributions be made to the IHC. To date, \$33,500 has been received. The contributions will be helpful in funding a number of IHC needs, beginning with renovations that include making a number of changes in order to enlarge Peggy's work space and creating two offices out of the one that two PA's currently share. Donors are receiving receipts from the Town as well as handwritten notes from IHC staff; the IHC is thinking of the best way to memorialize Michael and to acknowledge this welcome gift from his family, perhaps a plaque.
- Thanks to Dorie Henning, a number of IHC projects are getting squared away.

Health Fair

David Runnion-Bareford said that preliminary discussions had come up with the concept of "Whole Family" as the focus of the 2016 fair. With the the growing number of young families on the island, the pre-school about ready to unveil plans for its new building, and Boardman's expanded programs for outreach to the elderly and hospice care, a theme encompassing issues that extend from the beginning to the end of life would be timely. He said that both Chloe Joule and Alex Hodges had offered to help to organize the fair, though neither wished to head it up. In a wide-ranging discussion, committee members proposed:

- Date: Saturday, April 23rd (to be confirmed).
- Location: Kinnicutt Center (to be confirmed).
- Format: More of a conference model than in the past, with 4-5 workshops lasting 15-20 minutes, perhaps held twice during the day. In addition, 20-25 providers.
- Ideas:
 - Derreth - stress management. Will require an hour. She will provide contact information.

- Dorie - age-appropriate health screenings.
- Sharon - diabetes. Dorie suggested a diabetes educator from PenBay.
- Mike - he and Kathy could do a session on the family.
- Janet - Ann Renarde massage chair, a chiropractor, a prostate exam.
- Zumba
- Door prizes

Health Center Director's report. Dorie said that there was lots of positive energy at the IHC and that several projects were underway or in the planning stage.

- Staff is developing a more thorough way of keeping the patient files.
- New systems for patient preventative maintenance are being developed.
- In addition to office renovations, the Stevens funds may support staff development, including participation in an overnight retreat focusing on team building, attendance at 5-day intensive medical conferences organized by Harvard and held in Boston in March and December, and online courses.
- The Stevens funds may also be used to acquire a video laryngoscope, which facilitates seeing vocal chords on a screen.

Lyme disease/DRC/Tick-borne Disease Committee Update.

- Linda said the November "tick bulletin" reported that to date the IHC has diagnosed 37 confirmed cases of Lyme disease in 2015. Dorie said that there have been a number of new cases recently. She has found that Islesboro patients are generally well-informed about Lyme disease and its treatment.
- Dorie said that the Columbia tick-borne disease study now has 8 participants; 2-3 have had their 6-weeks tests. Although the work is time-consuming for patients and staff, the study is important, and Islesboro is an ideal place for participation. She thanked Andy Borghese for his work on the study during the summer.
- Derreth reported that the Tick-borne Disease Prevention Committee (T-bDPC) is currently devising a new way to display the incidence of tick-borne disease on Islesboro. Rather than basing its reports on the publication dates of IIN and the bulletins, the reports will report by quarter and month by month. The T-bDPC expects to begin using the new format in the spring.
- Linda reported that at their November 4th meeting, the Selectmen (BoS) set forth their plan for putting together a new tick-borne disease prevention strategy for Islesboro, a process to begin in November and conclude in the spring. The BoS will work with the DRC, the T-bDPC, and the community-at-large to gather comments and ideas which will be compiled. The BoS will use the information as the basis for recommendations that will be presented to the Town, discussed, amended as necessary, and then voted on at a Town Meeting.

Linda added that on Wednesday, December 2nd, a group from Islesboro including Janet Anderson, Arch Gillies, Sandy Oliver, Gil Rivera, Derreth Roberts, Maggy Willcox, and Allie Wood will meet with MDIF&S Chandler Woodcock and DHHS Commissioner Mary Mayhew in their Augusta offices; Maine CDC director Kenneth Albert will also attend the DHHS meeting. The Selectmen have scheduled these meetings in order to convey to the Commissioners and their staffs the seriousness of the tick-borne disease issue on Islesboro. The point of the visits is not to present a plan as to how Islesboro proposes to address the issue, for the community is not ready, but to ask for the commissioners' awareness and help. She circulated two charts that were

included in the information packets for the meetings. They were prepared by Andy Roberts, Ph.D, who teaches biology and directs research at Ohio State University; he is the son of Islesboro residents, Derreth and Jim Roberts. The charts clearly indicate that the incidence of Lyme disease is considerably higher on Islesboro than in Waldo County and in the State.

Policy Approval

Derreth pointed out an omission in " Health Center Background and Organization." The last sentence under the heading "Organization" should read, "The Town provides the building and equipment for the medical office and the salaries of the physician assistants, *the family nurse practitioner*, the administrative coordinator, and the transcriptionist/administrative assistant.

Upon MOTION made and seconded, the committee approved each policy as written or amended. Mike and Janet will sign the amended version.

Next HCAB meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 14th. Janet said she would be circulating the meeting dates for 2016.

Upon MOTION made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gillies, Secretary