

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
TOWN BUILDING – COUNCIL ON AGING  
May 1, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m., participating by remote call are Brian McNamara (BM), Susan Green (SG), Chair, Arne Soslow, M. D. (AS), John Schuler, M.D. (JS), Robert DeFrancesco, D.D.S (RD) (1:30 p.m.), Brian McNamara (BM), Doug Levine (DL) Board of Selectmen. Also present were Julia Junghanns, (JJ) Director of Public Health, Ruth Mori (RM) M.S.N., R.N. Public Health Nurse/School Nurse Leader, Louise Miller (LM) Town Administrator and Patti White Department Assistant

Roll call to open the meeting: SG-yes, AS-yes, JS-yes, BM-yes, DL (BOS) – yes

JJ: Governor Baker has extended the stay-at-home order to May 18<sup>th</sup>, recommending continued social distancing and the current order for essential services will remain in effect. In addition to Covid related work, the Health Department is processing routine work and doing essential inspection services. We continue to receive calls regarding building and septic projects and have received a number of applications for chicken keeping. We were recently advised that the septic system at the former Prime Grill has failed a Title 5 inspection, the property is currently for sale, staff will be working on plans for a new system. Staff is involved with a number of conference calls with DPH as well as regional conference calls; RM had been on several Maven (state communicable registry) related conference calls. We continue to receive questions on camps and pools; we are waiting for guidance information written by the State. LM: In the Department Heads meeting we have been talking about the forecast, plans for reopening and how things will progress over the next few months.

RM: The most recent COVID-19 weekly update was on April 29<sup>th</sup>, we hope to update today and currently there have been no new cases since the last report. The total as of April 29<sup>th</sup> was 60; one is actually not a town resident, so we are at 59, 6 individuals have passed in our community. I received some new information from the Maven webinar today, now we will be placing just confirmed positives (PCR) into the workflow to be processed as active. We don't have guidance on how to report probable cases; Dr. Madoff and Dr. Brown are developing Board of Health guidance regarding confirmed positive and probable testing through serology. Looking at our overall numbers, we actually have very few positive residents; most of our cases are in our 3 congregate long-term care facilities. The nursing home directly report to MDPH, they were tested yesterday, we do know of one death there and they have isolated symptomatic persons. We are working with hospice at Traditions; they have not requested any assistance at this time.

AS: Do you know when the National Guard testing numbers will be in? Is the testing for residents and staff?

RM: Depending on the time of day the National Guard was testing, the results are generally available within 48 to 60 hours. That turnaround time is reasonable, and that testing does not have to be done again. Staff has been tested at all 3 facilities; staff results are sent to the facility and they are reporting the information to us, the information is also sent to the Health Department in the town of residence for them to follow the case, as these persons are not all town residents. All staff are working in full PPE and anyone symptomatic has been removed from work, asymptomatic employees are continuing to work in PPE. The facilities are following the CDC guidance for health workers for symptom management, they are out at least 10 days, this is the minimum time out of work, if they had a fever, they are out until they have not had a fever for 3 days without fever reducing medications.

JJ: As of this week, Gov. Baker is mandating that long term care facilities to test workers and residents, we had heard that workers could decline testing; it is now being mandated the State has also implemented new guidelines

for assisted living facilities cleaning protocols. RM: We continue to work closely with all our assisted living facilities to be sure they have all the appropriate PPE supplies. Hoping going forward, this will help get this under control. There was continued discussion regarding how positive results are being reported and why.

RD has joined the meeting @ 1:30. BM has left the meeting at 1:30.

RD: How are the positive cases spread out in town, are there neighborhood clusters? RM: Cases are dispersed across town, at this time most of the contacts are family members and symptomatic family, which creates a pool of COVID-positive individuals in the household. JS: 85% of transmission is in household as opposed to stores and public.

1:40 p.m. Review and discuss draft face covering order and vote

Many towns in Mass. are doing mask orders, after recent conference calls local officials are asking the State to do a state wide order; to avoid confusion as each town would have their own rules.

The most recent updated draft of the proposed Wayland Mask Order has been sent out to the Board; there were a few minor changes. This is truly needed in supermarkets, pharmacies, convenience stores, gas stations, liquor stores, any place where there will be interaction between a cashier and the public.

The Board went through the Draft Mask order and near the end of the BOH meeting the Board was advised that Gov. Baker had just announced that the State would be issuing a Statewide Mask order on Wednesday.

Concerned that a local mask order might have possible conflicting/confusing language, the Board has tabled the mask order to their meeting on Friday to review both orders at that time.

In regards to future mask orders, the Board had continued discussion as to how to educate the public regarding mask requirements/notices as more people are getting outdoors for activities such as walking, hiking, rollerblading, jogging or biking or any other activity that creates exertional breathing. There was discussion on education regarding exertional breathing and the increased need for face coverings during these activities on trails and bike paths in Wayland.

#### **2:30 p.m. Minutes of March 17, 2020 and March 20, 2020.**

SG: Motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2020, second RD roll call vote: RD- yes, JS -yes, AS-yes, SG-yes, vote 4-0

SG: Motion to approve minutes of March 20, 2020. Second JS As - yes, JS - yes, RD - yes and SG – yes Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Invoices were emailed to be approved. All ok

Next meeting Friday at 10am

#### **2:35 pm. Public comment the public is invited to call in at 508-358-6812**

Deborah Harrison- 85 Lake Rd. Terr. is a resident of Cochituate, over 65 with a lung condition. Ms. Harrison has also spoken to the Board of Selectmen and is glad that Wayland is working towards a mask order for everyone, she was not aware of the governor mask order. She commented on the need to include proper disposal of gloves and masks; these items are being dropped in parking lots. She also commented on the need for masks and gloves to be worn when food services are handling takeout orders, not just during food preparation.

SG: thank you for your comments, we understand and we are working to figure out what belongs in an order and what is for educational material. We want orders short and direct, guidance can discuss additional language in regards to courtesy

AS: Ms. Harrison, how do you hear information and updates? DH: send over phone, grocery stores, signage and brief messages on trails.

Molly Upton, Bayfield Rd. – Did the National did Natl guard test all the residents and staff at each facility and when are they expected to test again? RM: In regards to testing the residents and staff, all long-term care facilities have been tested. Some facilities opted to send employees to an outside company for testing. In regards to retesting, I have not receive confirmation if any of the facilities are on the list for retesting, I am following up with all the assisted living facilities and the nursing home on a regular basis and have asked them about retesting.

Richard Turner: Nob Hill Road Due to Covid 19 and the Governor's guidelines on social distancing the Public Ceremony Committee has cancelled their Memorial Day event on Monday May 25, 2020. All cemeteries will be reflagged and the committee is looking forward to services in 2021. In regard to Mask Orders he is seeing many people out in public are not wearing masks, please place an order as soon as possible.

2:50 p.m. Public comments have been closed.

2L50 p.m. SG: Motion to adjourn, second RD roll call: RD yes, JS yes: AS yes SG yes

Respectfully submitted  
Patti White  
Department Assistant  
Wayland Health Dept.  
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APPROVED JULY 13, 2020