

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
TOWN BUILDING – COUNCIL ON AGING
June 8, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

SG: In compliance with revised Open Meeting Law requirements, we will live stream the meeting on WayCAM, Public Comments will be received by phone at 508-358-6812 for this meeting. The phone number will be active during the public comment portion of the meeting. Thank you in advance for your patience; we intend to address all calls that come in during the public comment period.

Present by roll call: JS yes, RD yes, SG yes, also present were Julia Junghanns, Ruth Mori Mary Antes, (BOS)

5:35 p.m. Updates and discussion: Coronavirus (COVID-19) situations

RM we have no new cases this week. We are down from 106 to 105, there was one person included who is not a resident. We are now focusing on recreational camps. We have many inquiries and there is a lot of information to educate ourselves with and reference regarding state guidelines. We had our “probables” increase from 13 to 14. Based on the new DPH guidelines, when we call to ask about probables, only those symptomatic are quarantined now. We only have 11 active cases, this is best/lowest number in several weeks.

JS: no Q for active? RM: active is quarantine, probables were to be isolated from prior symptomatic.

JS: What about in the assisted livings and the nursing home? RM: we are checking in weekly. Their cases are off isolation, and recovered. Some are symptomatic, but they are considered recovered. They are keeping them in their rooms if they are symptomatic. JS: are we seeing any 2nd infections? RM: we are not seeing 2nd, but with continued testing (nasal swabs), they are still testing positive, even without symptoms. The DPH issue is regarding those who continue to test PCR positive. They not sure if it is live or dead material in the nose, as they are not considered symptomatic. If they are off isolation and have no fever/significant improvement of symptoms (shortness of breath and fatigue can persist). RM: The total number deceased from 19 to 17 were from long term care. RD: state numbers for assisted living/nursing homes in NH was 74% . RM: There was reporting at peak that ½ were long term care. JS: what to do to prepare for fall and possible return? RM: no official recommendations from DPH as of yet. RM just following up and checking in to be sure facilities are using PPE, masks, following cleaning protocols. JS: employees? RM: yes JS can we encourage facilities to continue to test staff. No one has adopted this as of yet. I think DPH should provide that guidance. JS: they should staff be tested for antibodies, it may help prevent future spread. RM: cautiously optimistic. JS: AZ had had a spike of 1000 cases since reopening. RD: lakes area was having parties, it could be part of that. JJ: hearing there may be problems in NY,

JJ: We are studying and reviewing summer camp guidelines and semi-public and public pools, referencing the state Covid 19 and DPH guidelines. We are looking at capacity restrictions. Pools guidelines are looking at 40% of facility capacity. We will be reviewing the guidelines with the pool operators. It is an extensive list of guidelines and protocols. Regarding outdoor dining, we are inspecting 110 grill, they had opened for lunch today, and it was very busy. We have been working to assist local restaurants to comply with guidelines and help get them open. To help local businesses, the BOS had expanded outdoor dining to other restaurants as well as expanding capacities for some. That is something new that has not been done in the past. The process is being worked out through the BoS, and town staff to help local businesses. We have received calls for inspections and a variety of questions to open. The Town beach, looks good. They are pulling weeds as they do have some weed problems there. We are taking water samples and its being tested weekly through the summer. Currently they are just open on weekends. This was the 2nd weekend open. SG: are most of the restaurants looking to open? JJ: there are some that were not open for takeout, but they are starting to open for takeout. Some were open for takeout and now looking to do outdoor dining. The Food inspector is working with them to ensure Covid compliance/attestations and signage.

Regarding Animal keeping hearings for permits, I have reached both applicants for next week's agenda. There are 2 applicants anticipating the hearing on 6/22, we will also have 2 more on 6/29. We will do site visits before the meetings. We will also have the subdivision 81 West Plain St on our agenda. They have been before Planning and looking to come to BOH for their Definitive hearing/approval. JS: They may have changed the application (# of houses?) SG: It's hard to imagine 3 homes on property. JS: They submitted for 2 houses and now looking to do 3? JJ: There is an existing house on the property. We will do a full staff review before the public meeting with BOH. The Planning board does the abutter notifications. SG: Do we have an update on the Covid checklists? JJ: We continue to receive them, if I go out, I ask for the list, each day we are receiving them, either from staff inspections or Food inspector inspections. RD: Coach Grill has their list posted outside to door. JJ: we heard they are interested in outdoor dining, but we do not know what they are planning. SG: do you have any interns this summer? JJ: we have a couple of people that have worked in the past that are local, there may be some projects that they can assist with. Possibly with the check lists. SG: How is septic work, busy? JJ: that is steady ongoing.

6:00 p.m. Updates and discussion on Phase I and Phase II of Gov. Baker's reopening plan

Phase II has a substantial list of things opening, retail, restaurants. The estimated start dated of Sept 1 for a number of things; involving indoor activities, hotels, motels, limited sports (no contact) some professional. I will share the order from Gov. Baker after Saturday. Funeral home capacities up as well. Town playgrounds are also being discussed. Day camps, and libraries were also mentioned. We do not know the plan for Wayland library. Currently it is pick up only. For the 2 step progression of phase II, depending on public health data, step 2 will be announced by the state. Enforcement is mostly local health, but we can reach out to DLS. SG: guidance from the state had been insufficient, and lot is opening, are you getting enough guidance with detail? JJ: It is coming in dribs and drabs, it will be a process. It is a learning experience for all, as we go along questions arise. We constantly have to check the website to see what the guidance/protocols are. Some questions often come up in conference calls, sometimes answers are provided on the calls but not referenced on websites. Some questions may take longer than others to answer, communities are working with department heads/ boards involved in decision making. I will be sure to keep the Board advised, as things unfold. Often in conference call settings, there is checking with peer communities to see what they are doing.

6:10 p.m. General business
Minutes of 4-17-20

SG: Motion to approve the minutes of 4-17-2-2- as amended, second RD roll call RD-yes, JS-yes and SG yes.

6:10 p.m. Public comment is open at 508-358-6812

6:14 p.m. No calls- public comment is closed.

Next meeting date

June 22nd 5:30 p.m. SG: may be out of state? If possible she may be able to connect. Be sure there is a quorum with SG as possible. Will arrive on 19 and advise of connection.

6:15 p.m. Motion to adjourn, second RD roll call JS yes, RD, yes and SG yes.

Respectfully submitted
Patti White
Department Assistant
Approved 092320