

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
TOWN BUILDING  
August 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 8:10AM. Present by remote roll call were Robert DeFrancesco DMD (RD), John Schuler MD (JS), Arnold Soslow MD (AS), Brian McNamara (BM), and Susan Green (SG). Also present were Julia Junghanns (JJ) Director of Public Health, and Ruth Mori MSN, RN (RM), Public Health Nurse/School Nurse Leader.

SG: Roll call for attendance: JS –yes, AS – yes, BM – yes, RD – yes, SG – yes.

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.

**8:10 p.m. Approve minutes May 20, 2020**

SG: Motion to approve May 20, 2020 minutes. BM second, RD – yes, BM – yes, AS – yes, JS-yes, SG –yes. 5-0 vote all in favor motion passes.

**8:10 p.m. Update on potential COVID19 testing advisory group and related charge language, COVID 19 updates and new information**

JJ: There has not been a charge developed yet, selectman will likely be working on it at their next meeting. Have heard that DPH is working on testing for schools and they are supposed to be making an announcement towards end of the week.

SG: Review of selectman discussion. They ran out of time to talk about it and put it off a week. They understand that they want to develop a charge and that other communities are working on similar things. There are legal issues, likely those already discussed by LM in the past to the board. Believe they are meeting next Monday and they will have time to discuss. Discussed article which describes Wellesley's efforts to work on a similar testing project. This article lays out deployment and privacy issues in a detailed article that came out of their BOH and town administration. Gives a preview on types of things that Wayland work group/committee will have to explore.

SG: FDA approved a saliva test that could cost as low as \$10 a test. AS: There are going to be quite a few rapid tests coming to market that we would be able to choose from that don't necessitate a lab, but not ready yet.

RM: COVID-19 Updates: Two positive cases that have occurred since last meeting. One is within the Age 50s bracket, and the other is within the Age 20s bracket. They were both asymptomatic and were discovered through routine testing. They are both quarantined and all contacts have been tested. Think we might start to see more of that as people are starting to head back to work/school.

AS: Question regarding testing and school reopening. Can the BOH recommend that parents consider voluntary quarantine for the two weeks before start of hybrid school to reduce levels of COVID in school in lieu of testing? SG: Agrees that this is a good idea and notes that many universities are recommending this as well.

JJ: Reported that the state is being asked to work on metrics and guidelines for schools who are remote, returning to school in a hybrid form, or transitioning from a hybrid form to full in-person schooling. JS: How would testing affect liability, perhaps state could do something there. JJ: Not heard anything addressing that concern. AS: Seems that state focus is on school and not on non-school populations. Towns will have to work with that. Whatever the state comes out with, the towns can improve upon guidelines as long as they are in compliance.

### **8:25 a.m. General Business**

JJ: Have been receiving a lot of new guidance and updated orders from Governor Baker's office, it's a lot to keep up with. Because of confusion from MA residents, they are planning on merging everything together into an updated guidance document in order to simplify their guidance.

JJ: Addressing issues of mosquitos. Currently still in low-risk category for west Nile virus and Triple E. Testing has been ongoing in the district and in community where testing locations are. In touch with Brian Farless (Superintendent East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project), to make sure we're aware of anything that is going on but so far nothing. Last year was a very active year, this time of the summer is when things can start percolating and transmission between infected birds and mosquitos occurs. Town Meeting coming up 9/12 and will be on the athletic field at the High School. It would be a good idea to do a perimeter spray around adjacent area as it is an area with a lot of mosquitos due to its location near the river. This year the process will be a bit easier because there are no students.

AS: Can you share the plan for Town meeting and what guidelines they are following and how it will be set up and managed? JJ: The event will be following the current appropriate state guidelines. It will be socially distanced in an open area and will provide adequate spacing (6 feet) for seating areas. There will not be a large tent, but there will be some tents available for sheltering from the sun if it is a sunny day. There will also be a medical area for any emergencies that occur. There will be hand sanitizer stations, signage and demarcated areas for social distancing. They will also utilize a special chemical that will be sprayed onto coverings of microphones between speakers (these microphones will also not be touched by anyone). People will be wearing face coverings or masks unless they are seated. If going to the bathroom, there

will be signage indicating number of people allowed in the bathroom. Have participated in a couple of the meetings where they are talking about the plans to provide input. If there is inclement weather, then it will have to be postponed and/or rescheduled. They do have a rain day on the next day (Meeting on Saturday, Rain Day on Sunday). They do expect town meeting to be longer than one day, although they hope to expedite some things to keep schedule tighter.

JJ: Things are still in development. Can certainly communicate messages and comments so that Louise (Louise Miller, Town Administrator) and planning group are aware and can address concerns.

AS: Wants clarification on masking. How to deal with husband/wife sitting together vs strangers.

JJ: They will have some seats available for couples. But all seats would be spaced with at least 6 feet between them. Don't have layout but the basic guidelines of social distancing will be in place. Right now we are already working on this, with accommodations made for couples, and individuals.

AS: Town police will be present? JJ: Do believe there will be a number of staff including Police and Fire. There will also be additional staff to usher/help people to their seats.

BM: Probably difficult to have people show up the day-of and say "we're a party of x amount". Whatever reservation system, probably best to just space everyone out six feet and not worry about having different groupings.

JJ: Have some basic protocols going into warrant that is still in development. Could get that information for the BOH so we all know beforehand.

AS: Another question, when is school committee going to meet with BOH again when they release air quality mitigation project report so we can see what their plan is? JJ: Noted that the results from the engineering studies are available on town website and will provide link to board members. Discussed meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Also noted that the board should perhaps space out meetings a bit more if there is nothing urgent as weekly meetings are becoming difficult.

**Next Meeting will be Monday August 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30p.m.**

### **8:45 a.m. Public Comment**

SG: Public comment is now open, phone calls received at: 508-358-6812

There were no calls, public comment is closed

8:45a.m. SG: motion to adjourn. Roll votes BM Second. Roll vote: BM- yes, AS – yes, JS – yes, SG – yes. Vote 4-0 meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted  
Zachary Jonas  
Health Department Staff

APPROVED 050922