



BOH MEETING MINUTES 12-7-2020

Attending via TEAMS Conference Call
Call # 1 617-433-9462, Conference ID: 507 935 122#
Joseph Tennyson, MD, Chair
Jim Griffin, Vice-Chair
Robin Williams, Member

Also in attendance: Director John Garside, Public Health Nurse Michelle Andrade, and Clerk Tina Nolin

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for December 7, 2020 meeting: Vice-Chair Griffin motioned to approve the minutes and place on file, Chairman Tennyson seconded the motion, Board roll call vote was 3-0 to approve the motion.

New Business

- **Discussion & Update of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Director Garside updated the Board on the recent activities of the Health Department regarding COVID-19.

- As of this meeting, the City has had 2083 cases since February 1, 2020, 1751 people have recovered, and there have been 76 deaths. We currently have 256 active cases. This seems to have developed into a young and middle-aged disease, with 87% of those confirmed positive for the virus being under 60 years of age and 75% being below 50.
- We are currently reporting 58.1 cases per 100K population, and our positivity rate is 4.78%, keeping us still in the yellow (medium) risk range.
- Three of our seven long-term care facilities have a few cases. The overall numbers we are finding in these facilities are much lower than we saw in the spring.
- We currently have no cases in our senior housing complexes (240 Main St, 397 Bolton Street, and 97 Pleasant Street) or at Academy Knoll (22 Broad St). All of these locations have done very well over the past eight months having very few or no cases.
- Director Garside updated the Board on the COVID-19 numbers at the Marlborough Public Schools (MPS) and noted that currently, grades K-2nd, ESL, and special needs children at all levels continue to participate in in-person classes.

- The current number of cases at the Marlborough Public Schools are as follows.

School	Positives	Quarantine
Kane Elementary	1	20
Richer Elementary	1	5
ECC	1	3
Jaworek Elementary	1	30
Goodnow Elementary	1	13
Whitcomb Jr High	4	9
Marlborough High	1	4

- Assabet Valley Technical School is still operating in the hybrid model. However, their school committee is meeting tomorrow night, at which they may be deciding to go full remote through Jan 1st and then re-evaluate. They had five cases at the school last week in addition to four remote cases. None of the five in school cases were in the same cohort.
- Marlborough Hospital reported nine inpatient cases and three cases in the ICU. Chairman Tennyson reported that Leominster Hospital was having a much larger surge.

Director's Update

- We completed one of our school flu clinics this past week, at which we gave 120 doses of vaccine. We have one more coming up this coming Thursday, December 10th.
- Director Garside reported on Stop the Spread COVID testing. AFC Urgent Care is no longer in the program, but the City has contracted with them to test Marlborough residents and business employees. This started on December 1st. They appear to be doing about 91 tests a day.
- The APW has continued to test but will most likely be stopping in the next week or so.
- The hospital continues to test at the New England Sports Center. They continue to be very busy.
- The department is looking into EverlyWell in-home test kits and ordering a small sample of kits in the near future, with the intention of ordering more if all goes well.
- Framingham has opened a mega-site at Mount Waite and Franklin Streets at the UMASS parking lot. It is hoped that 1000 tests a day will be performed, but they are currently in the ramping up phase.
- Director Garside informed the Board that Marlborough has teamed up with Hudson and several other surrounding towns to form the Substance Abuse Collaborative. It will be managed by the Hudson Health Department. This will allow us to participate in a grant which will help with educational programming with the schools, primarily related to vaping, but also tobacco and alcohol. Director Garside will let the Board know when and if the grant is awarded to the group.

OTHER BUSINESS

Olivia Dufour, the Director of Metrowest Tobacco Control, was in attendance. Ms. Dufour gave a presentation on what Metrowest Tobacco Control has done and will be doing for the City. While much of the past work in the City has been on education establishments that sell tobacco products, the scope has broadened to getting in the schools with tobacco education programs. The group's approach with retail establishments is to do a visit where they conduct an educational inspection, making sure signage is in place, that retailers and staff know, understand, and are following the current tobacco regulations, etc. The second visit is a compliance check on selling to minors. They hope to be in Marlborough, starting with education in the first week of January 2021.

Member Williams motioned to authorize Ms. Dufour and Melissa Evans to act as agents of the Marlborough Health Department while performing retail inspections, education, and compliance initiatives. Chairman Tennyson seconded the motion; the roll call vote was 3 -0 in favor of the motion.

SUBDIVISION, SITE PLAN & SPECIAL PERMIT REVIEWS

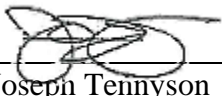
Director Garside informed the Board that another adult-use retail facility is currently in site plan review. It is called Calverde Naturals and will be located at 219-237 Boston Post Road W. This will make three facilities in the City, two on the west side and one on the eastside

ADJOURN

Member Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm; Vice-chairman Griffin seconded the motion; the roll call vote was 3-0 in favor to adjourn.

The next meeting of the Board will be on January 11th at 6:30 pm. Attendance will continue to be remote via Teams meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Joseph Tennyson

01/11/2021
Dated

Cc: Board of Health Members
City Council, City Clerk, and City of Marlborough Website