



BOH MEETING MINUTES 06-08-2020

Attending via TEAMS Conference Call
Call # 1 617-433-9462, Conference ID: 957 706 797#
Joseph Tennyson, MD, Chair
Jim Griffin, Vice Chair
Robin Williams, Member

Also, in attendance: Director John Garside, Clerk Tina Nolin

Meeting called to order 6:30 PM

Reading and Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for March 9th and March 14, 2020 meeting: Vice-Chair Griffin motioned to approve, Member Williams seconded the motion, Board vote was 3-0 to approve the March 9th, 2020 minutes.
- Minutes for April 6th, 2020 meeting: Vice-Chair Griffin motioned to approve, Member Williams seconded the motion, Board vote was 3-0 to approve the April 6th, 2020 minutes.

New Business

- **Update and Discussion 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 reported 101 active cases the lowest since April. For the past week, we were averaging 2.4 new cases a day compared to 19 cases per day two weeks ago.
- This coming week Director Garside had will participate in a zoom meeting with the Chamber of Commerce, Council on Aging, and WMCTV to discuss the City's response to COVID-19.
- In the newest Phase II reopening guidelines:
 - Retailers may open at 40% capacity.
 - Outdoor pools also may open at 40% bather load, and indoor pools are open for swim programs and activities for those under 18 years of age.
 - Restaurant outside dining is allowed with tables six feet apart, single-use menus, and wearing masks when not at seats.
 - Sports that require contact are not allowed, and funerals remain limited to 10 persons.
 - Hotels may now accept guests. However, functions and meetings at such establishments are not allowed.
- The City had 24 restaurants apply and be approved for new/modified outside seating.
- Vice-chairman Griffin reported on Marlborough Hospital, stating that COVID-19 volume is trending down. Three people are on ventilators; two are COVID-19 positive, one is negative. Granger 1 is still 100% COVID-19, only 10 or 15 patients. ER has been quite busy as well, but he was not sure what the admitted percentage was.

- Chair Tennyson gave an update on UMASS ICU/ED reporting numbers remain lower, at 40 to 50 per day, versus the 70 + a day seen in earlier weeks. There were no surge spaces required, and operation space was back to normal. If people come in with a fever for any reason, they receive a COVID-19 test. Very few are testing positive. The current reproduction rate is about 2, we want to be below 1, but numbers are decreasing dramatically. Chair Tennyson also reported that saliva testing would be available in the tent, helping with speed, staffing, and lowering needed PPE.
- Director Garside reported that only a few people had been to the Marlborough Hospital testing tent on Board of Health orders through our contact tracing at this time.
- Vice-Chair Griffin let Director Garside know that the organizers of the annual Greek Festival had been in touch with him, asking if they would be able to hold the event this year. He advised them to call the Health office and speak to John or Tina for advice.

Other Business

Tobacco

Director Garside reported that on June 1st the Governor's Order ending the sale of mint and menthol flavored tobacco went into effect. Also, the Regional Tobacco Control District funding should be approved shortly, and it will be used to hire a regional director.

EEE

Director Garside reminded the Board that because Marlborough had been a critical risk area for EEE last fall, we would have increased larval spraying in May, which was completed, and adulticiding is underway at this time.

Principle Clerk Position

The reclassification of Senior Clerk to the Principle Clerk position has been received favorably by the Mayor and still needs some City Council support and transfer of funds, which we are expecting in the next week or so.

Nurses Position

Director Garside reported that interviews for the nursing position had started, but that the candidate had withdrawn their application, so now they were back to calling for new applicants – not many had applied to date. There seemed to be a possible issue with salary, but a salary survey was underway at this time.

ADJOURN

Vice-chair Griffin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM, Member Williams, Seconded, vote 3-0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Joseph Tennyson

July 6, 2020
Dated

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