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NORTH READING, MA

**Town of North Reading**  
*Massachusetts*

*Board of Health*

**North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes**  
**April 29, 2020**  
**Teleconference/ Virtual**

**Members Present:** Gary Hunt, Chairman  
Pamela Vath  
Karen Martin

**Others Present:**

Robert Bracey, Health Agent North Reading  
Michael Gilleberto, Town Administrator  
Mary Samost  
Christine Cochrane  
Dallas Bailey  
Gregg Corbo

Andrew Shultz, Select Board member  
Michael Murphy, Chief of Police  
Amy DiChiara  
Debbie Savarise  
Carol Erb  
Member of the public screen name MW

**7:00 PM**

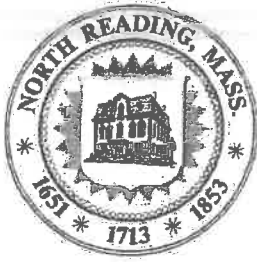
Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting

**Minutes**

Minutes to be approved at a future meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Debbie Savarise's mother is a resident at Royal Meadow View Nursing Home. Royal Meadow View she claims has not allowed the patients to use a phone or have contact with the family. Her family has not had contact with her mother in roughly a week. Royal Meadow View will not allow anything to be dropped off to the patients. Nurses were using their personal phones to allow some facetime, but this is no longer happening. The family has thanked the Town for the information posted to the website as that is how they are getting news.



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Dallas Bailey who is Mrs. Savarise's brother, has not been able to get information from Royal Meadow View either, nor has he been able to talk with his mother. The other patients seem to be roaming around the facility and going into other resident's rooms and touching their food. Carol Erb's: mother is also in the Royal Meadow View facility. She reports that the patients are still being taken to activities and not wearing masks. Royal Meadow View is telling the family that things are happening and then the family is finding out that it is untrue. Carol has daily contact with her mother, whom is very aware, and reports people going into her room not wearing masks.

**Health Department Announcements**

None

**Community Health Liaison Report**

None

**Community Impact Team Report**

None

**New Business:**

**COVID-19**

Order of the Board of Health Effective Saturday April 25, 2020, Directing All Long Term Care Facilities and Nursing Homes in the Town of North Reading to Undertake Further Precautions to Protect Others from the Spread of COVID-19.

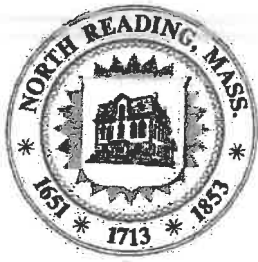
**Karen Martin motioned** to approve the Order prepared on April 24, 2020 directed to Royal Meadow View Nursing Home.

**Motion seconded by Pam Vath.**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

**Motion carries, Order Approved.**

Pam Vath's update on the Royal Meadow View facility since the Order became effective: Royal Meadow View has supplied the Health Department with strategies on how they will handle donning and doffing personal protective equipment (PPE), staffing assignments, bed assignments, and cohorting of patients. Pam is having good communication at this point with Royal Meadow View regarding the amount of positive and negative cases.



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Mr. Bracey's update on the Royal Meadow View facility: Prior to the Order being issued the Health Department had received an anonymous complaint regarding the facility. Since then we have received an additional three (3) complaints. The Health Department has also received a floor plan for the facility. These complaints have been brought to the Massachusetts Department of

Public Health contact person Eileen McHale. Mrs. McHale has responded with a hotline number and website. When asked how we would get information regarding follow-up to these complaints, Mrs. McHale said that we would probably not get information back. The Rapid Response Team is comprised of nurses, LPNa and Aids and has been delayed to the Royal Meadow View facility. The Response Team is not an investigative team as they are there to help fill a staffing void. At this time the Response Team is working to assist the night shift at the facility.

Royal Meadow View is not taking new patients as per the Order at this time. This topic will be revised in next week's meeting to discuss if an adjustment needs to be made or not.

A discussion took place regarding the creation of what was referred to as a "generic order" to assist group homes, communal housing units and assisted living facilities. In this Order and /or guidance some of the guidelines would include but not be limited to taking temperatures, cohorting, personal protective equipment (PPE) and limiting or restricting visitors. This document will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

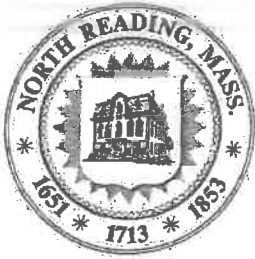
Overall the businesses are cooperating with the Order to Require Facial Coverings. Dunkin Donuts by CVS was observed to not be using facial covering that cover both the nose and mouth. The Hillview Country Club is closed to the public and should not be used as a walking area.

**Mosquito and Ticks:**

A draft letter was distributed to the Board for review. Once edits are received the letter will be posted on the Health Departments website under News and Announcements.

**Funeral Director Renewal:**

Mr. Croswell has submitted the application needed for renewal and presented to the Board for signatures. This document was sent via DocuSign and will be signed by the Board of Health.



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**Animal waste issue:**

At this time the Health Department is drafting an information letter to residents whom own dogs regarding their responsibilities for picking up and disposal of waste. The by-law is as follows

**§ 23-12 Removal and disposal of waste.**

*[Added 10-9-1997 ATM by Art. 8, approved 1-29-1998]*

**A.**

*It shall be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any sidewalk, street or other public area in the town. It shall further be the duty of each person who owns, possesses or controls a dog to remove and dispose of any feces left by his/her dog on any private property neither owned nor occupied by said person.*

**B.**

*No person who owns, possesses or controls such dog shall appear with such dog on any sidewalk, street, park or other public area without the means of removal of any feces left by such dog. Furthermore, no person who owns, possesses or controls such dog shall appear with such dog on any private property neither owned nor occupied by said person without the means of removal of any feces left by said dog.*

**C.**

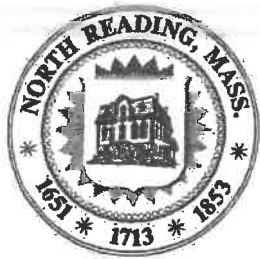
*For the purposes of this regulation, the means of removal shall be any tool, implement or other device carried for the purpose of picking up and containing such feces, unexposed to said person or the public. Disposal shall be accomplished by transporting such feces to a place suitable for the disposal of canine feces or as otherwise designated as appropriate by the Board of Health.*

**D.**

*Enforcement of this section may, in the first instance, be pursued through the provisions of Section 21D of Chapter 40 of the General Laws, which provides for a noncriminal disposition. The enforcing persons shall be any police officer of the Town or any animal control officer of the Town.*

**E.**

*Reports of all violations of this section shall be made to the Police Department, where a record of such violations shall be kept on file. Violation of this section shall be subject to a written warning*



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*for the first offense, a fine of twenty-five (\$25) dollars for the second offense and a fine of \$50 for subsequent offenses.*

*[Amended 10-5-1998 ATM by Art. 12, approved 1-27-1999]*

**Next meeting** to be held 5/7/2020 at 7:00pm

**Karen Martin motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm

**Motion seconded by Gary Hunt**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

DocuSigned by:

5184239585FC46B  
Gary Hunt

DocuSigned by:

6A8AF14FEB41408  
Pamela Vath

DocuSigned by:

1820A173D47649Z  
Karen Martin