



RECEIVED  
BARBARA STAFF

2021 FEB - 9 AM 10:14

## TOWN OF NORTH READING

Massachusetts

### Board of Health

TOWN CLERK  
NORTH READING, MA

### North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2021

Teleconference/Virtual

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

**Others Present:**

Robert Bracey, Health Agent North Reading	Michael Gilleberto Town Administrator
Stephanie Connolly	Mary Samost
Donna Hovey	Amy DiChiara
Steven O'Leary	Abigail Hurlbut
Resident Mills	

**7:00 PM**

Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting.

**Minutes**

Previous minutes signed and posted to the Board of Health Website.

**New Business:**

**Public Comment:**

**Health Director updates**

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics have started in North Reading for First Responders. The Health Department hosted these four (4) clinics at Town Hall with great success. At this time the Health Department is looking at relocating the Clinics to Hillview Golf Course. This location will allow for a larger amount of residents at a location while maintaining social distancing as well as ease of traffic. Mr. O'Leary asked if there was anything that the Health department needed for the upcoming clinics. Some of the suggestions were if we needed another refrigerator to store the vaccine. At this time Local Boards of Health are only allotted 100 doses per week, so the unit that we recently purchased is sufficient. A suggestion was raised to purchase a couple of iPads for the purpose of checking in, nurse scribe and checkout. A number of people have reached out to the Health Department wanting to volunteer. A list has been created and will be available to access when we need. Royal Meadowview Nursing Center has a contract with CVS for the staff to obtain the Moderna vaccination.

235 North Street, North Reading, MA 01864

Tel: 978.357.5242 Fax: 978.664.1713 Web: [www.northreadingma.gov](http://www.northreadingma.gov)



## **TOWN OF NORTH READING**

*Massachusetts*

### **Board of Health**

Food Establishments are currently doing well. There are no tobacco issues to report at the moment.

#### **Public Health Nurse**

Donna Hovey has officially accepted the position of Public Health Nurse. Ms. Hovey will be starting as of 2/3/2021.

#### **Community Incident Rate**

Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has notified the Town of North Reading of 783 cases of COVID-19 in North Reading including Royal Meadow View nursing and rehabilitation center. 610 cases have recovered, and the Health Department continues to monitor 157 cases. Sixteen (16) cases including 13 at or associated with Royal Meadow View nursing and rehabilitation center, two Town residents, and one suspected case in a Town resident, are deceased. The third Town resident death was recently identified by the Town in state public health records, but occurred earlier in the fall. Since the beginning of the school year, North Reading Public Schools and/or the Health Department has assisted in responding to 12 staff and 23 student cases of COVID-19 in the Public Schools, as well as several instances where staff/students have self-reported as close contacts of positive cases.

Public Health Nurse Dr. Vath stated that we are averaging 8-10 new cases a day and most seem to be spread within households.

To date there have been three (3) reported cases of Influenza this year.

#### **Reading Gymnastics Academy**

Reading Gymnastics Academy (RGA) is located in North Reading and serves several surrounding communities. In November a staff member tested positive for COVID-19. By mid-December the Health Department was receiving calls of concern in relation to COVID-19 cases related to RGA. Reading Gymnastics Academy was issued an Order to Cease and Desist on 12/18/2020 in order to investigate what was then deemed a Cluster Outbreak. The Health Department along with Steven Daigle from the Department of Labor Standards investigated this case. Contact Tracing Collaborative assistance was requested to assist us in contacting all the individuals that were deemed close contacts. In total there were 60 plus cases related to this location. The Department of Labor Standards has made recommendations to be followed including masks at all times, better social distancing and a more appropriate level of alcohol spray. A letter regarding reopening was sent to Mrs. Leslie McGonagle that read in part as follows:

At this time, the Board of Health has granted 3-0 to allow Reading Gymnastics Academy to re-opening in accordance with the Massachusetts COVID 19 Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standards with the following restrictions:

235 North Street, North Reading, MA 01864

Tel: 978.357.5242 Fax: 978.664.1713 Web: [www.northreadingma.gov](http://www.northreadingma.gov)



**TOWN OF NORTH READING**  
*Massachusetts*

**Board of Health**

1. A negative COVID 19 test result or if you have tested positive, you will need a letter stating you have cleared from quarantine dated December 19, 2020 to January 13, 2021.  
Or
2. In lieu of being tested for COVID-19, you will need to provide a letter (Attesting) that your child has quarantined for a least 14 days between during the time of December 19, 2020 through January 13, 2021 and has not had any COVID-19 symptoms.
3. All recommendations from the Massachusetts Division of Labor Standards will be immediately implemented into Reading Gymnastics COVID 19 Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standards(Mandated Facial covering, proper social distancing, robust cleaning/sanitizing of the facility ad equipment's and staggered start times for classes and cohorts)
4. A designated Reading Gymnastics personal who will ensure and enforce the above COVID 19 Sector Specific Workplace Safety Standards daily.

**Royal Meadowview Nursing Center**

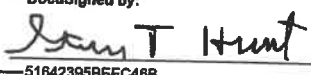
In April of 2020 the Board of Health issued an Order regarding the accepting of patients into the facility. Royal Meadow has recently reached out to the Board requesting that the Order be reviewed. At this time any patient that is returning to the facility has to remain in Isolation for 14 days. Winchester Hospital was aggressively wanting to send a patient to Royal Meadowview Nursing Center which is what prompted this review. At this time the Board has reviewed this request and has decided to keep the Order in place as it currently is written.


Next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for 2/10/2021 @ 7pm.

**Karen Martin motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.

**Motion seconded by Pam Vath.**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

DocuSigned by:  
  
51842395B5FC48B...  
Gary Hunt

DocuSigned by:  
  
6A9AF14FEB41408...  
Pamela Vath

DocuSigned by:  
  
1920A173D478497...  
Karen Martin

235 North Street, North Reading, MA 01864

Tel: 978.357.5242 Fax: 978.664.1713 Web: [www.northreadingma.gov](http://www.northreadingma.gov)