



TOWN OF NORTH READING
Massachusetts

Board of Health

North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2021
Teleconference/Virtual

Members Present: Gary Hunt, Chairman
Karen Martin

Others Present:

Robert Bracey, Health Agent
Donna Hovey

Stephanie Connolly
Mary Samost

RECEIVED
BARBARA STAS
2021 MAY 18 AM 9:12
TOWN CLERK
NORTH READING, MA

7:00 PM

Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting.

Minutes

Minutes from 3/18/2021 approved and posted to the website.

Public Comment:

New Business:

Health Director Report:

Vaccination clinic at the Hillview have concluded as of 4/1/2021. We have received great feedback from the community. The residents have been very complimentary to the staff and appreciative of all the hard work to make these clinics happen. On behalf of the Board of Health and Health Department we extend our heartfelt Thank you to all involved, because of your hard work these clinics have been a great success. The Town Administrator Mr. Gilleberto also would like to extend his thanks and a job well done to all involved with the Clinics. We have since partnered with the Housing authority to have a clinic at Peabody Court. The Health Department with the assistance of Mary Samost R.N. was able to hold a Saturday clinic and travel to the homebound residents in need of vaccination.

Mr. Bracey attended the Community Impact Meet meeting recently where some Tobacco issues were raised. A few retailers have been selling CBD or Hemp items. Mr. Beauregard, compliance enforcement and education, has not been out to the stores in sometime due to

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COVID. The retailers are stating that the wholesalers are saying that they can sell these. Mr. Bracey is going to be looking to see if we can permit the wholesaler and/or what Authority the Local level has. With COVID and the amount of products being made to target children the Board has asked when Mr. Beauregard will be returning to code enforcement. The idea was again brought up if Amy Luckiewicz should be made an Agent of the Board to assist Mr. Beauregard. The Board feels that this appointment would need a clear definition and expectation of what to do and when, as well as more discussion with Mr. Beauregard.

Parks and Recreation: Have been working with Mr. Bracey on the guidelines and field usage. As well as camps are starting to get ready for the season.

Title V: the season opened on April 1, 2021. Alexander Parker will be working with the Health Department through July to do Soil Testing that has been requested over the winter. Soil Testing will be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Bracey will continue to do the septic field inspections.

Food Protection: Inspections and site visits will continue as well as assisting new owners of establishments. Mike's Pizza has changed ownership and is working with the Building Department to bring the establishment up to code. Ginger Gourmet has also undergone a change of ownership. The new owners have met with Mr. Bracey and have had inspections of the establishment. Dos Lobos will be changing to Hopothecary Ales and is working with both the Building and Health Department. The Board wants to ensure that no effluent from the beer goes into the septic system.

Mosquito Control: Donna Hovey PHN is going to be working on an educational video to be shared via our website, Healthy Hornet Facebook page and Norcam. DPW is going to be working on cleaning the catch basins soon, the cleaned basins will be marked with paint. Eastern Middlesex Mosquito Control will be dropping briquettes into the basins.

Housing Issues:

60 Chestnut St- A complaint was received regarding a foul odor coming from a storm drain in front of a residence. DPW traced the issue back to number 60. Mr. Bracey has issued a cease and desist for illicit discharge to the homeowners.

25 Southwick St- This residence has been abandoned and had a recent death. Mr. Bracey is working with the Attorney General and it is now in the hands of a new receivership.

Public Health Nurse:

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As of 4/10/2021, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has notified the Town of North Reading of 1271 cases of COVID-19 in North Reading. 1192 cases have recovered, and the Health Department continues to monitor 55 cases. 36 patients between town residents and Royal Meadowview Nursing Center are deceased.

Donna Hovey Public Health Nurse is working with Mr. Troppy from DPH to gain knowledge of how and when the deaths are reported. To date the State has not given a clear answer to this matter, other communities have been experiencing the same issue.

Royal Meadowview Nursing Center: Donna has been in contact with Nancy LaRock at the Royal Meadowview regarding the Motion from the Board at the last meeting. The Motion was well received from Nancy. Overall the admissions have been going well with only one since our last meeting held on 3/18/2021.

There have been more cases as of late within sports teams. Mr. Bracey reached out to the Department of Labor Standards for assistance with contact tracing as well as making sure protocols are being followed by the teams.

Healthy Hornet Facebook

Karen Martin continues to post to the Healthy Hornet typically daily. Recent posts include reminder of the travel advisory, locations that have available vaccine, as well as the pause in the use of J and J vaccine. Upcoming posts will include education regarding tick and mosquito season.

Martin Fair Memorial

Karen Martin presented a PowerPoint of the various play structures to be considered. The Board has decided that the structure needs to be commercial grade. The Board will be meeting with Mrs. Salt from the Land Utilization Committee to discuss structures and placement more. Some of the topics still under consideration are product cost, labor cost, warranty information on the equipment and maintenance.

COVID Vaccine Clinics

To date the Health Department has held 24 clinics, with two more to be held. Both of the upcoming clinics are for second doses, one being at Peabody Court and the other for homebound patients. 503 first dose vaccines were administered through our clinics and 479 second doses have been administered. From the data available the second doses are a little lower as some

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people got theirs in another location. Total vaccinated individuals from our clinics specify total 491, after the last two clinics the total will be 511.

PermitEyes Online Permitting


The Health department as of April 1, 2021 moved to the Online Permitting system called PermitEyes. All Health permits will need to be applied for through this portal. Once you make an account you can click onto BOH and click the application that you need. Within the portal you will be able to chat, upload documents and check the status of your application. To date people have been receptive to the change. We have also been in contact with Full Circle to better streamline the process.

Next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for 5/19/2021 @ 7pm.

Gary Hunt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.

Motion seconded by Karen Martin.

All members voted unanimously in favor.

DocuSigned by:

5184239595FC489
Gary Hunt

Pamela Vath

DocuSigned by:

1920A173D476497
Karen Martin

*Pam Vath did not sign as she was not present at this meeting.

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