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TOWN CLERK  
NORTH READING, MA

**Town of North Reading**  
*Massachusetts*

**Board of Health**

**North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
September 22, 2020  
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	John Murphy, Town Moderator
David Mills- Resident	Abigail Hurlburt
Steve O'Leary, Select Board	Jon Weir
Scott White	Amy DiChiara
Lt. Thomas Romeo	Mary Samost
Deb Birkmeir	

**7:00 PM**

Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting.

**Minutes**

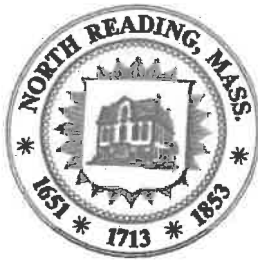
Previous minutes are being reviewed at this time.

**New Business:**

**Public Comment:**

**October Town Meeting**

The October Annual Town Meeting has been recommended to be held outdoors at 189 Park St, Kennedy Field. Should weather or other unforeseen issues become an issue the Town Meeting may be held indoors as a last resort. Both venues will be set up to hold the Town Meeting so that the decision can be made the morning of Town Meeting 10/3/2020 in the event that it needs to be moved indoors.



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**Gary motioned** I move that in the event that the October 3, 2020 Town Meeting being held outdoors is in practical or unsafe due to weather or other unforeseen conditions, the Board of Health approves that the Town Meeting be held indoors at the Middle/High School gymnasium as a plan B option, provided that the same measures and protective conditions are in place as were in place for the June 29, 2020 indoor meeting and that decision would be made to hold the meeting indoors on the afternoon of 10/2/2020.

**Motion Seconded by Pam Vath**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

**Kitty's Restaurant Hearing**

On August 27, 2020 Kitty's Restaurant was issued an order to appear before the Board of Health at their next schedule meeting for noncompliance with COVID-19 Standards and violation of four (4) Health Department Orders. Kitty's Establishment via Deb Birkmeir emailed the Board of Health requesting an extension for the hearing, which the Board granted, making the next hearing to be scheduled for 9/22/2020. On 9/22/2020 via Zoom Kitty's appeared before the Board requesting to eliminate the fines that have been issued totaling \$1,200.00.

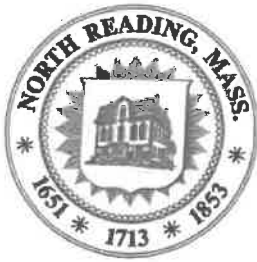
On 8/13/2020 Kitty's Establishment via Scott White precipitated a call to the Health Department and Director of Public Safety and was issued guidance, redirection, verbal order and written redirection to comply with COVID-19 Sector Specific Mandatory Requirements including maximum capacity requirements of 50 person(s) or less at outdoor social gatherings, proper social distancing and the requirement of facial coverings at outdoor gatherings.

On 8/19/2020 the Health Department received a formal complaint that these requirements were not being followed. The Health Department notified Kitty's of this complaint and was issued a COVID-19 Sector Specific Mandatory Requirements Violation Order, Cease and Desist Order along with a \$300.00 fine.

On 8/20/2020 Mr. White called the Health Department and Lt. Romeo of North Reading Police Department, Lt. Romeo gave Mr. White guidance in relation to the car show. Mr. White did not make Lt. Romeo aware that there was a Cease and Desist in place. A Board member observed that the Car Show was indeed being held and the required Sector Specific Mandatory Requirements were not being observed.

On 8/24/2020 a second Cease and Desist was issued to Kitty's along with a \$1,200.00 fine.

On 8/24/2020 Mr. White emailed the Health Department stating that on both occasions he followed the advice given by the Police Department on cancelling the car shows. He placed cones in the parking lot, an ad in the transcript, and put a message out on Facebook.



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On 8/26/2020 Health Department received an email from Mass Department of Labor Standards on a complaint regarding Kitty's Cruise Nights.

On 8/26/2020 Kitty's received a written warning and Order to correct via Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development Department of Labor Standards.

Mr. White stated that he did everything he could to not have people show up for the car show but they did anyway. This is an event that has been going on for 15 years and not run by Kitty's. Lt. Romeo did confirm that Mr. White had reached out to him for guidance and that Officers were sent to Kitty's to help with the crowd. It took Officers upward of 30 minutes to disperse the crowd that came for the Car Show.

Jon Weir a Board member for Kitty's Restaurant stated that they have always tried to do what the Health Department has asked of them. But this matter was out of their hands, and how do we as a struggling business turn customers away.

The Board of Health as a whole praised Kitty's for their response to COVID-19 Sector Specific Mandatory Requirements with in the restaurant. When asked how the cars shows stopped the following two Thursday's, Scott said that they don't come if it is raining. Ultimately the Car Shows are held on Kitty's property and the responsibility of Kitty's ownership.

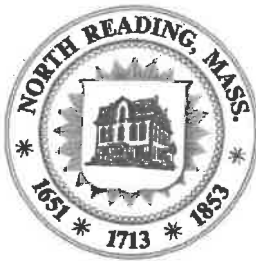
**Karen Martin motioned** to reduce the fine levied on Kitty's Restaurant to \$600.00 to be paid in relation to COVID-19 restrictions.

**Motion Seconded by Gary Hunt**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

**Public Health Nurse Position/Report**

As of September 22, 2020 North Reading has had a total of 240 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 171 from the community and 63 at or associated with the Royal Meadow View Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Of those 240 cases 219 have recovered, and the Health Department is currently monitoring 5 active cases. There has been a total of 14 deaths, 12 of these were confirmed COVID-19 cases at or associated with the Meadow View Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Amongst North Reading residents, there has been one death from a confirmed case and one death from a suspected case. At this time the position of Public Health Nurse continues to be advertised and interviews are ongoing.



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**Health Department Interns**

Dr. John Kleschinsky is the team lead with academic public health volunteer team corp. Early on in the spring, in response to COVID-19 needs students had been assisting with local Boards of Health with contact tracing. Once Partners in Health had taken that over the volunteer corp. started assisting with any other needs of local Boards of Health. Some of the ideas that were suggested were grant writing, letters to the editor on various health topics and social media. Dr. Kleschinsky has worked with other communities in the past but at this time we would be his main focus. Dr. Kleschinsky would be available 10-20 hours a week and would be responsible for the interns.

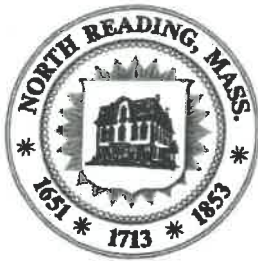
Mary Samost also had in a previous meeting discussed interns assisting the Health Department. At this time the connection has not been made between the Town Administrator and the student. Pam and Karen will work with Dr. Kleschinsky to draft an agreement.

**CIT Coalition**

Marcy Bailey has reached out to the Board of Health to have a representative attend their meetings. This is a great opportunity for the Public Health Nurse in the future. At this time the Board cannot make the commitment to be there every meeting.

**Health Agent Report**

Incident rates in North Reading have decrease to 0.9% and are now in the gray category. Grant funding continues to be used to support setting up flu clinics for the community. Currently there are 17-19 Influenza Clinics being offered throughout September and October. The first clinic is taking place on 9/28/2020 at the O'Leary Senior Center. In conjunction with Dr. Daly the Health Department is offering Influenza Clinics at the schools this year. Several calls have been received to both the Senior Center and Health Department inquiring about Influenza shots for our home bound population. At this time we are looking at the logistics, vaccine availability and cost to see if we can make this happen. The cost for a vaccine refrigerator was presented to the Town Administrator and he has given his support for the purchase of this item. Mr. Gilleberto also supports obtaining the vaccine for our home bound population.



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**Title V Consult Services**

Shelly Newhouse has been appointed as Title V Consultant for the Health Department for a term of two years.

**Other Business**

- Royal Meadow View Nursing Center has been allowing family visits in the court yard. They are looking into changing this as the colder weather is coming, and new MDPH rules are expected.
- An Establishment has been issued a Cease and Desist Order as they are not offering dine in food. This establishment was working with a caterer to meet this requirement but the caterer has since decided to leave. The Health Department is working with them.

Next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for 10/20/2020 @ 7pm.

**Pam Vath motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.**

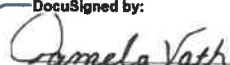
**Motion seconded by Karen Martin.**

**All members voted unanimously in favor.**

DocuSigned by:

  
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Gary Hunt

DocuSigned by:

  
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Pamela Vath

DocuSigned by:

  
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Karen Martin