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Town of North Reading
Massachusetts

Board of Health

**North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2020
North Reading Town Hall, Room 14**

Members Present: Gary Hunt, Chairman
Pamela Vath
Karen Martin

Others Present: Robert Bracey, Health Agent North Reading
Mary Samost

7:00 PM

Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting

Minutes

January minutes to be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting. March 19th minutes to be reviewed at a future meeting.

Public Comment

Scott Buckley: Thank you all for your hard work.

Health Department Announcements

None

Community Health Liaison Report

None

Community Impact Team Report

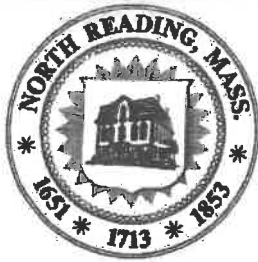
None

New Business:

COVID-19

Currently North Reading is at 8 confirmed cases. Pam Vath Public Health Nurse has been investigating the cases. The positive cases have been already self-quarantining. Pam is also finding that people are being cautious if they have been around someone that has shown symptoms, by staying home. Individuals are reporting that they are feeling tired, coughing, as well as having no taste or smell.

Lab results are coming in at different rates depending on the lab doing the testing. Some tests are getting results in two (2) days while others are five (5) days or more.



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Pam is grateful for the help and resources that she has received and will receive. BU School of Public Health is going to be sending students to assist. These students will be beneficial to help with field work for places such as Meadow Lodge as well as assisting with tracking.

Mr. Bracey has submitted the necessary paperwork for additional funding. He was able to purchase infrared thermometers for various departments such as Police and Fire.

Mr. Bracey continues to work with local businesses to help ensure the social distancing order, set by Governor Baker.

Mary Samost reports that at Salem Hospital nurses have been working in various areas of the hospital in order to assist the need. There have been roughly 200 people tested there and 54 patients being treated. We have not yet seen the peak of this pandemic here.

Karen Martin received a complaint/concern regarding Ipswich River Park and the amount of people there. At this time the recommendation is that the park remains open to the public, but some education is needed to help people incorporate social distancing of 6 feet. People may walk the ground but please allow for spacing.

As per Governor Baker's recommendation to ban reusable bags at this time, North Reading will allow the use of plastic bags.

Gary Hunt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm


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