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TOWN CLERK
NORTH READING, MA

Town of North Reading
Massachusetts

Board of Health

**North Reading Board of Health Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2020
Teleconference/ Virtual**

Members Present: Gary Hunt, Chairman
Pamela Vath
Karen Martin

Others Present:

Robert Bracey, Health Agent North Reading
Steven O'Leary, Town Select Board Member
Michael Gilleberto, Town Administrator
John Lucci
Dallas Bailey

Andrew Shultz, Select Board member
Don Stats, Chief of Fire Department
Mary Samost
Amy DiChiara
Jake Ranieri

7:00 PM

Mr. Gary Hunt opened the meeting

Minutes

Minutes to be approved at a future meeting.

Public Comment

none

Health Department Announcements

None

Community Health Liaison Report

None

Community Impact Team Report

None

New Business:

COVID-19

Pam Vath Public Health Nurse reports that communication with Royal Meadow View Center is going well. Staff in the facility are working with both positive patients and negative patients, there is no cross over at this point. Royal Meadow View Center reported that they have a good



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amount of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Currently in North Reading there are 102 positive cases, 68 recovered, and the Health Department continues to monitor 84 cases. Twelve (12) confirmed cases including 11 at or associated with Royal Meadow View nursing and rehabilitation center, and 1 suspected case, are deceased.

Mr. Bracey, Health Director, reports that establishments are doing well. The Health Department received word back from a resident that was able to talk to their loved one who is residing at Royal Meadow View Center.

The Order of the Board of Health Restricting the Number of Persons in Essential Business Establishments was discussed. At this time it is recommended by Mr. Bracey to extend this Order to remain in place until the Emergency Declaration issued by the Board is lifted. John Lucci Owner of Eastgate Liquors would like to see the number of persons allowed in an essential business be based off of 40% of occupancy for each essential business.

Mr. O'Leary is in support of increasing the number of persons in essential business, where social distancing can still occur. He would like to see more than ten (10) people be allowed in places such as CVS and Walgreens, where people can distance safely.

At this time, Mr. Andrew Shultz, is in favor of keeping the current numbers allowed in essential business establishments.

Mr. Don Stats is also in favor of keeping the limits as is at this time.

Pam Vath motioned to amend section thirteen (13) of the Order of the Board of Health Restricting the Number of Persons in Essential Business Establishments to extend the end date and will remain in effect until the Public Health Emergency Declaration is lifted.

Motion seconded by Karen Martin.

All members voted unanimously in favor.

Motion carries

Long Term Care Facilities Discussion:

As a follow up to last week's discussion regarding Emergency Rule and Order of the North Reading Board of Health to All Long Term Care and Nursing Facilities additional items need to be added to the Order.

Section two (2) want to add bullet item, for the duration of the state of emergency all personal would wear a facial covering while in the facility.

Add in the next bullet; in the care of any resident with known suspected COVID-19 in accordance with CDC guidance on conservation of Protective Personal Equipment (PPE), which shall consist of, at a minimum: N95 Masks properly fit-tested to each employee, eye protection, gown and gloves.



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Pam mentioned that this Order should also include the group homes, congregate homes and/or communal living facilities.

This Order will be reviewed at next week's meeting for vote.

Order Requiring Facial Coverings

Section C in the current Order needs to be amended to be consistent with the Governor's Order, if a person has a medical condition and they cannot wear a facial covering, they would be exempt as long as social distancing can be maintained. In the next paragraph it does also state that all persons are required to wear facial coverings inside grocery stores, farm stand stores, pharmacies, home improvement stores, banks, ice cream manufacturers/dairies, government agencies, liquor/beer/wine stores, convenience stores, and the like, **must wear a facial covering, such as a fabric mask, scarf or bandana, over their nose and mouth.**

Pam Vath motioned to amend section three (3) of the Order Requiring Facial Coverings to be consistent with the Governors guidelines regarding a person that has a medical condition that he/she would be exempt from facial coverings, but must practice social distancing and if inside a public place this person must wear a facial covering.

Motion seconded by Gary Hunt

All members voted unanimously in favor.

Motion carries

Discussion on Landscapers and check in for Food Establishments

Check list was created to help the Food Establishments with what they are doing now and how reopening will look at each establishment. An intern has reached out to the Health Department and will be conducting these interviews via telephone.

Landscapers/ Exterior Home Service guidance/ fact sheet, persons in this position shall wear facial coverings and maintain social distancing.

Gary Hunt motioned to approve the Landscapers/Exterior Home Service guidance as written

Motion seconded by Pam Vath.

All members voted unanimously in favor.

Motion carries

Pools

Pools permitted by the Health Department are allowed to start chemically balancing their pools, in the effort to reduce standing water and potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes. With the understanding that they may not be able to operate this year due to COVID-19 and the resultant guidelines from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Golf Courses

The golf courses are allowed to open with restrictions. Some of the restriction include payment in advance over the phone, no food operations, foot traffic only and social distancing must be



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maintained. Discussion was held with Hillview, Health Department and Mr. O'Leary, regarding the opening and how to manage that. If social distancing is not possible then people should wear facial coverings.

Graduation

A discussion was held regarding graduation. The Board of Health will continue to discuss this topic and how best to accommodate graduation. A Public Service Announcement will be drafted by the Board.

Next meeting to be held 5/14/2020 at 7:00pm

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

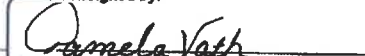
Motion seconded by Gary Hunt

All members voted unanimously in favor.

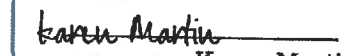
DocuSigned by:


51642395BE346P... Gary Hunt

DocuSigned by:


6A9AF14FEB4140B... Pamela Vath

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1920A173D476497... Karen Martin