



TOWN OF BURLINGTON, MA
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
Main Meeting Room, Town Hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

Board Members Present: Ed Weiner, PhD, Chairman; Vice Chairman David McSweeney; Maribeth Welch; and Libby Walendziewicz, RN, MSN

Board Members Not Present: Dr. Wayne Saltsman, MD, PhD;

Staff Members Present: Susan Lumenello, REHS/RS, CHMM, Director of Public Health; Christine Mathis, Environmental Engineer and Chris Paulik, Supervisory Nurse

Dr. Weiner called the Board of Health meeting to order at 7:00 PM. This will be the first remote meeting of the Burlington Board of Health. All votes will be taken by a roll call vote.

Ms. Walendziewicz recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: March 10, 2020

MOTION: Mr. McSweeney moved to approve the Board of Health minutes of March 10, 2020 for discussion. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walendziewicz and approved as amended. On a roll call vote, Mr. McSweeney, Ms. Walendziewicz, Ms. Welch and Dr. Weiner voted in favor. (4-0-0)

Mr. McSweeney stated that under the King Bibis discussion, the 3rd paragraph should start with Dr. Saltsman, not Dr. McSweeney.

Citizen's Time: No one called in.

Chairman's Report:

Dr. Weiner stated that we are in uncharted waters. All non-essential activities have been cancelled. The Board of Health has been actively working with the Police, Fire and all Town Departments to help in these times. Dr. Weiner thanked the Chiefs of Police and Fire and the Town Administrator Paul Sagarino as well as the excellent Board of Health professionals we have in Burlington and all the elected Board members.

Dr. Weiner stated that he understands the frustration people are feeling but this may continue for a while and we are all working together. He asked that everyone be patient. The Board of Health website has all the latest information and the Board of Health is here to help the residents of Burlington.

Mr. McSweeney read a statement regarding remote meeting requirements per the order given by Governor Baker on March 12, 2020. We are in compliance with the open meeting law with this meeting. Dr. Weiner stated some ground rules for the meeting: the meeting will be recorded, state your name when you speak, look into the camera and press mute when you are not speaking.



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Subcommittee Reports:

There were no subcommittee reports.

● **Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**

Ms. Lumenello gave an overview of the last 2 weeks:

- They are working closely with the Town Administrator and all Department Heads to give guidance on what is the best course for the Town and the residents.
- The Governor has ordered all non-essential employees to stay home. All Town essential services continue to run.
- We are enforcing the Governor's orders including the most recent non-essential services including gyms, hair salons, tanning, etc. They are contacting all the establishments.
- They are getting the information out to the public as soon as it becomes available.
- They are tracking positive COVID-19 in Burlington and contacting them.
- They are researching getting additional help for the nurse perhaps using the MRC members.
- They received \$10,000 from the State and they are looking at how best to use the funds including providing isolation areas.

Ms. Welch thanked Ms. Lumenello and the staff and asked if there is a timeline to get support for the nurse. Ms. Lumenello stated that they are starting to plan for a heavy caseload. We use MAVEN to track contagious diseases so we would need someone trained on MAVEN or we need someone who can do training.

Dr. Weiner stated that he heard there was a second installment of grant money. Ms. Lumenello replied yes there will be but she is not sure when or how much they will receive. Mr. Weiner asked Ms. Lumenello to repeat the website information for residents. Ms. Lumenello stated that the links to Mass DPH, CDC, WHO and the National Institute of Health are all on the Board of Health website at Burlington.org.

Ms. Paulik stated that people should stay home for 14 days. If they have symptoms such as high fever, dry cough or shortness of breath then they should call their provider. Social distancing should be kept, washing hands for 20 seconds, wipe down surfaces and stay home if sick.

Staff Reports

Environmental Engineer

Ms. Mathis presented her report:

- The Household Hazardous Waste Day on April 18th is now cancelled.

Dr. Weiner asked if things have been done differently since COVID-19. Ms. Mathis stated that she has shifted away from routine hazardous waste inspections and is assisting with contacting non-essential businesses that should be closed.



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MOTION: Mr. McSweeney moved to approve the Environmental Engineer's report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Welch and unanimously approved. On a roll call vote, Mr. McSweeney, Ms. Walendziewicz, Ms. Welch and Dr. Weiner voted in favor. (4-0-0)

Supervisory Nurse

Ms. Paulik presented her report:

- The Health Fair has been cancelled.
- They did hold the rabies clinic and they had about 35 attendees.
- She has been directing her attention to employee and residential calls and COVID case management.

Ms. Walendziewicz asked if she had information on individual cases. Ms. Paulik replied yes. The potential of cases in Middlesex County could be very large. Ms. Walendziewicz asked if a positive test is reported to the person's town or where they work. Ms. Paulik stated that the reporting system is MAVEN and it reports to where the person lives. If they live in Burlington then it comes to us. She will then follow up with them and their immediate family, work and other people who could have been exposed. Ms. Walendziewicz asked if it is too late to get a flu shot and do we still have supply. Ms. Paulik replied no, they can still get a flu shot up to June 30th and yes we still have flu shots and it won't interfere with next years.

Mr. McSweeney stated that MAVEN is not a new system. This is the same when reporting to the State and is highly confidential. Ms. Paulik stated that this is a surveillance website from the local Boards of Health to the State. There is only access by designated employees. MAVEN tracks all communicable diseases like chicken pox, pertussis, influenza, Lyme, TB, Hepatitis B & C, food borne illnesses and COVID-19. Once a report is received, the nurse will investigate it. Only she and Ms. Lumenello have access in the office. She is very careful with access due to the HIPAA laws.

Dr. Weiner stated that he is disappointed that the Health Fair is cancelled but we need to keep the people safe. Ms. Paulik stated that the staff has contacted all the vendors.

MOTION: Ms. Welch moved to approve the Supervisory Nurses' report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walendziewicz and unanimously approved. On a roll call vote, Mr. McSweeney, Ms. Walendziewicz, Ms. Welch and Dr. Weiner voted in favor. (4-0-0)

Director of Public Health

Ms. Lumenello presented her report:

- Testing capacity is limited in Massachusetts so the number of positive cases will go up when testing is ramped up.
- The State is reporting positive by county.
- Other Towns are looking to report on the number of cases in their specific town.

Mr. McSweeney thanked the staff for all their hard work and thanked Dr. Weiner for all his hard work behind the scene.



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Dr. Weiner stated that he is so proud of the Board of Health staff and elected Board during this pandemic.

Ms. Walendziewicz reminded people to wash their hands and stay safe.

MOTION: Mr. McSweeney moved to approve the Director of Public Health's report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walendziewicz and unanimously approved. On a roll call vote, Mr. McSweeney, Ms. Walendziewicz, Ms. Welch and Dr. Weiner voted in favor. (4-0-0)

Adjourn

MOTION: Ms. Walendziewicz moved to adjourn the Board of Health meeting at 7:42 PM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Welch and unanimously approved. On a roll call vote, Mr. McSweeney, Ms. Walendziewicz, Ms. Welch and Dr. Weiner voted in favor. (4-0-0)

*Respectfully Submitted by Dawn Cathcart,
Recording Clerk*



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DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT MEETING – TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

Agenda

Minutes: March 10, 2020

Chairman's Report: None

Subcommittee Reports: None

Discussion: None

Staff Reports: Environmental Engineer's Report; Supervisory Nurses' Report; Director of Public Health's Report