



Acton Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2020

7:30 P.M.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS VIA ZOOM

Present:

Virtual Members Present: William McInnis -Chairman, Joanne Bissetta, Mark Conoby, Dr. William Taylor and Michael Kreuze

Virtual Associate Members Present: Dr. Thomas Jacoby and Dr. Rekha Singh

Virtual Staff Present: Sheryl Ball-Health Director, Heather York-Nursing Director, Evan Carloni, Eva Szkaradek, Matthew Dow

Virtual Present: Peg Mikkola, David Martin, Terra Friedrichs, Steven Long

1. Opening

Chair - William McInnis opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

2. Regular Business

Director Update: COVID-19 Updates to Residents - The Health stated that the Governor has extended the closure of all non-essential businesses until May 4, 2020. In addition, he has closed all hotel/motels to the general public so that the rooms can be used for COVID-19 related issues.

B.COVID-19/Corona Virus

1. **Nursing Service Update** - Ms. York updated the Board stating that staff has been busy with the contact tracing of the positive cases in Acton. Ms. York stated that she has scheduled a planning call with her three per diem nurses to discuss how they will deal with the increased phone calls once the town-wide mailing letter has been received by our residents. Ms. York thanked the Chinese language school who donated 85 masks to her office. Ms. York also asked if the Board would still like the Town to report the positive cases in Acton as some communities have stopped doing this. The Board was in



agreement to continue with this update. The Board also offered to help field increased calls over the weekend if needed.

2. **Affirmation of Field and Playground Closures** - The Health Division stated that Town staff has worked to add more signage, social distancing messaging, added barriers and caution taped all closed fields and playgrounds in order to prevent residents from congregating in these areas and decreasing the risk of the spread of COVID-19. The Board stated that they implemented these measures in the hopes of further educating our residents and allowing the Conservation and Rail Trail to remain open.

Mr. Kreuze made a motion to close all recreational facilities and the rail trail. The motion was not seconded. Motion failed.

The Board stated they will continue to discuss this concern at future meetings and if people continue to congregate and not maintain social distancing, even after this measure, they may be forced to take additional action.

Members of the audience urged the Board to keep the rail trail and conservation areas open. Steven Long even offered to help place signs at these properties to further educate the users.

3. **Construction Site Activity Order/Policy** – The Board reviewed the new guidance from Governor Baker’s office regarding construction site activities. The Board stated that tonight’s vote will replace the previous vote of the Board. On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to implemented the following Construction Site Activity ORDER and POLICY:

ORDER

- Only the specifically authorized essential construction activities, as defined by the Governor’s Orders of March 23, 2020 and March 31, 2020, shall be allowed in the Town of Acton and all non-essential construction activities shall immediately cease until further notice.
- All construction in the Town of Acton shall be Consistent and Compliant with State Guidelines and Procedures for all construction site and works:
 - a. The State Guidelines and Procedures must be implemented and maintained at all times or the work site must close immediately until full compliance is assured.
 - b. No workers or individuals shall be allowed at any work site if sick, show signs or complain of typical symptoms of covid-19, are unable to certify no-contact



with individuals with or suspected to have or been exposed to covid-19, or who have been advised or directed to self-isolate or quarantine.

- c. All work site activities shall be in full compliance with General Guidance including but not limited to hygiene, cleaning and decontamination, 6' separation from other individuals, no physical contacts, on-site restrooms regularly cleaned and provided with warm water, soap, hand sanitizer and towels at all times.
- d. All work sites shall provide and make available hand washing stations which provide warm water, soap, hand sanitizer and towels at all times for frequent handwashing for all onsite personnel.
- e. On-site personnel must be designated in writing to maintain and keep clean the facility, handwashing stations and all workspaces with a log of all actions.
- f. All high contact surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized at least twice per day with a log of all actions.
- g. All workers at the work site are required to wear cut-resistant gloves or equivalent and eye protection safety goggles/face shields.
- h. In any situation where contact is less than 6', all affected workers shall be supplied and continuously use PPE including as appropriate face mask, gloves and eye protection.
- In the event, any of the guidelines or procedures are not able to be implemented or followed, the site must immediately close and the permittee must immediately notify the Land Use Department. The site cannot open or resume any work until it is certified in compliance and inspected.
- The Acton Board of Health or their designee is authorized to amend or modify this order, provided as it is more stringent and protective of public health, during this declared State of Emergency.

POLICY:

- The Acton Board of Health directs that the Land Use Department may defer or postpone non-emergency inspections based on limited staff resources and availability during this State of Emergency.
- The Acton Board of Health directs that all construction activities requiring permits and inspections shall follow emergency guidelines of Land Use Department.
- The Acton Board of Health strongly recommends that all construction activities in Town be limited to only essential or emergency activities to support public, life sustaining and habitability work.
- The Acton Board of Health strongly urges that all construction activities, except essential or emergency activities to support public, life sustaining and habitability work, be paused if possible to reduce the risk of spread of covid-19.



The Chair took Roll Call and all were in favor.

3. Minutes:

On a motion made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to accept the minutes of March 30, 2020. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

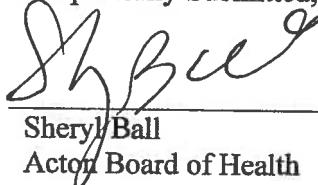
4. Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Conoby, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:53 PM. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

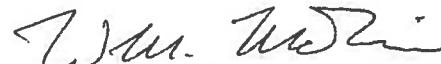
Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:

- BOH message regarding Field Closure
- Town Wide Mailing Letter
- Minutes from March 19 and March 26, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sheryl Ball
Acton Board of Health



William McInnis- Chairman,
Acton Board of Health

APR. 12, 2020

March 30, 2020 Board of Health