



Acton Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2020

7:30 P.M.

ROOM 204 TOWN HALL, 472 MAIN STREET WITH VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS VIA
ZOOM

Present:

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

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

Virtual Staff Present: Sheryl Ball-Health Director, Heather York-Nursing Director

Other Virtual Present: David Martin and Terra Friedrichs

1. Opening

Chair - William McInnis opened the meeting at 7:32 P.M. Mr. McInnis stated that due to the ongoing concerns with COVID-19, Coronavirus, the Board has had to modify how we connect with our residents and that the Board meetings will be held electronically until future notice.

2. Regular Business

A. COVID-19/Corona Virus

1. Closure of Town Buildings – In alignment with the Governor’s order, the Board is in agreement with the closing of all public buildings to help contain the spread of COVID-19 and also to safeguard our employees and residents. On a motion by Mr. McInnis, seconded Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to endorse the closing of all Public Buildings. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.
2. Declaration of Local Emergency – In alignment with the Board of Selectmen, the Board voted to sign the Declaration of Local Emergency for the Town of Acton. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Conoby, the Board voted to sign the Declaration of Local Emergency. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.
3. Closure of Businesses: The Board discussed closing personal businesses that are not able to maintain social distancing in order to provide their service. The Board also stated that businesses that can’t maintain a 6’ separation between customers and employees are usually elective and not required. The Board stated it was imperative to safeguard against the spread of 2019 novel coronavirus, and the impact of COVID-19.



On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Mr. Conoby, the Board voted to close all services to the public which cannot be provided at a distance of at least six (6) feet effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 8:00 AM. This will remain in effect until the public health emergency has been lifted by the Town of Acton. This ban will include all elective personal care businesses but is not limited to:

Hairdressers and barbers
Nail Salons
Massage services
Body Art
Body Work

4. Closure of Porta Potties/Public Bathrooms – The Board instructed staff to ensure that any public bathroom facilities, whether permanent or temporary be either removed or locked during this COVID-19 pandemic because they are not disinfected on a regular basis and we can't ensure the safety to the users.

B. Nursing Service Update:

The Board discussed safeguards that are in place to help prepare our employees and residents against the spread of the virus, including, whether there is an adequate supply of personal protective equipment (PPE). Ms. York stated that we currently have limited supplies and we are facing challenges in getting those supplies. Ms. York stated that the Town is actively working on obtaining those supplies. The Board also stated that if testing kits become available we should consider preparations for drive through testing sites. The Board also stated that we should notify MEMA of our list of PPE needs.

C. Other:

The Board also would like staff to reach out to Town Counsel to seek opinion on the Board of Health's authority to issue a Shelter in Place.

D. Public Comments:

Ms. Friedrichs urged the Board to continue to educate our residents.

E. Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:58 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting;

- Declaration of Local Emergency
- Gov Order closing childcare program
- Gov Order sharing critical info with 1st responders

Respectfully Submitted,



Sheryl Ball

Sheryl Ball
Acton Board of Health

William McInnis

William McInnis- Chairman,
Acton Board of Health