

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

Date of meeting: February 17, 2021

Transcribed by Patrick MacDonald

Meeting held remotely due to Covid 19

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN**

### **2. ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Amy Wiegandt, M.D., Chairman  
Catherine Phinney, R.N., Member  
Kathleen Waldron, Associate Member  
Lawrence Perry, Associate Member

Also present: Robert M. Ethier, Director  
Patrick MacDonald, Health Inspector

Absent Glenn Monteiro

**3. COVID 19 UPDATE:** Dr. Wiegandt read the press release from the Board of Health which was posted on the Town website, and distributed to the local press. The release stated that the Wareham Council on Aging is available to help senior citizens obtain vaccination appointments. A copy of the press release is attached for reference.

Members discussed other ways of aiding senior citizens in getting information on the vaccination, including placing copies of the press release into the 'Meals on Wheels' luncheon bags, as well as 'Robo calls' that might be generated as well, and senior housing locations.

Dr. Wiegandt explained that persons with only one vaccination so far are better protected than those who have not yet been vaccinated. She urged people to be very aware of the symptoms of Covid 19. Post vaccination some people experience discomfort including soreness, headache and tiredness. These are normal reactions.

Mr. Ethier gave an update on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts vaccine roll-out. He explained that although previously the Commonwealth had supplied hospitals with the vaccine, that that decision was reversed and only large 'central' locations were being supplied with the vaccine. The Gleason Family YMCA had one day of vaccinations, under the aegis of Southcoast Healthcare, and vaccinated over 400 citizens.

Mr. Ethier expressed frustration with the revised plans for distribution of the vaccine, stating that it left huge gaps in the geographical coverage through these central vaccination centers. The Wareham Board of Health filed paperwork with the Commonwealth to become an authorized distributor of vaccinations, but because of the lack of supply the Department has not been able to proceed.

## **HEALTH AGENT'S REPORT**

**February 17, 2021**

Last meeting: February 3, 2021

### **TITLE 5 REVIEW AND VARIANCES**

6 Conventional Title V plan reviews for systems

5 Alternative systems

### **PERCOLATION TESTS**

34

### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

None

### **INSPECTIONS**

Restaurant inspections for 2021 continue.

### **BEACH WATER SAMPLING PROGRAM**

The 2021 program starts on June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will have to have an intern to help with the workload.

### **COURT CASES**

None

### **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

Continues with blood pressure clinics, as well as Covid 19 responses

### **DISEASE REPORTING**

Report is ongoing regarding Covid 19.

### **PLYMOUTH COUNTY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COALITION**

We have created a site plan for a drive through vaccination location when we are able to receive the vaccine. A 30-page report had to be filled with the State to get approved for this program.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The rental housing program continues to be successful with between 2500 and 3000 units in the program. Inspections are ongoing.

57 Flock registrations (no change)