

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – August 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas McLaughlin, MD at the Senior Center at 7:00 P.M. Also in attendance were; Sheila Laffey, Member; Dutrochet Djoko, Member; Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; and, Mark L. Carleo, Director of Public Health.

ADMINISTRATION

MINUTES

No minutes were submitted for approval.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE’S REPORT

COVID UPDATES

Nurse Ryan reviewed case highlights and challenges. She further provided statistics for Danvers cases. The Town is slowly approaching 800 total reported cases since March 19th, when our first confirmed case was received. The number of active cases however, remains in the low single digits.

Carleo had provided the Board via email a link to a color coded map produced by the Commonwealth. Each community was colored grey, green, yellow, or red, and this was based upon the daily average incidence rate per 100,000 population. Grey represents the lowest average, and red being the highest. Danvers has remained in the green with an average hovering in the 3.0-3.9 range.

Dr. McLaughlin raised the matter of a potential COVID vaccine, and what may be political interference of appropriate phase III clinical trials. He reminded everyone of the debacle that occurred during the 1976 swine flu mass vaccination campaign, which appeared to be tied to Gerald Ford’s reelection efforts. The vaccine was rushed into production, and numerous issues arose, including an increase in the risk of Guillian-Barre syndrome.

FLU CLINICS

Nurse Ryan is preparing for flu clinic operations later this fall. The clinic will be a drive through operation at the Danvers High School. Conceptual plans are being formulated currently, and then the Emergency Dispensing Site plans will be updated accordingly. This clinic will serve as our required drill for the year. We’ll be partnering with CVS for vaccine and vaccine administration, and potentially have access to a pool of Public Health Nurses from the North Shore area Boards of Health.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PERMITS AND LICENSING

Carleo reported that since the August 13th meeting, 2 Body Art Practitioner permits were issued, as well as 1 Food Establishment permit, and 1 Well permit.

VIOLATIONS/NUISANCE REPORT

Carleo reported that since the August 13th meeting, the Health Department responded to the following complaint categories: 3 pest control, 2 solid waste, 1 food protection, 1 institutional sanitation, and 17 COVID safety standards.

ANIMAL HEALTH

ACO

On behalf of Animal Care and Control, Carleo reported staff having investigated the following complaint categories: 3 person injured by animals, 3 roadkill, 1 found pet, 1 wildlife nuisance, and 13 miscellaneous animal issues or administrative actions.

With no further business at hand, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,



Mark L. Carleo
Director of Public Health