

MARBLEHEAD BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES, March 10, 2020

Present: Chm. Helaine Hazlett, Todd Belfbecker; Michelle Gottlieb (via audio), Andrew Petty, Director
Also Present: Tracy Giarla, LPN, Benjamin Day (Marblehead Counseling Center), Pam Roberts (Recycling Committee), Dr. Carol Kessler (League of Women Voters)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.

Benjamin came before the Board to give his yearly report on the Marblehead Counseling Center. They are entering their 51st year in providing counseling services. In 2019, there were approximately 240 individuals seen by the center. This is a result of a 17% increase of counseling more clients. The center is looking to employ a part-time psychiatrist and two more clinicians by the end of the year. Town employees and Marblehead residents are seen by the center on a as needed basis. On Saturday, June 6th 6:30-9:00pm there will be a 50th anniversary celebration held at 25 Spray Avenue in Marblehead. The Board thanked Ben for the great job he continues to do.

Pam came before the Board to provide an update on the recycling committee. A health and wellness fair is scheduled for March 22nd at the YMCA. It is still scheduled at this time but could be postponed due to the Coronavirus. Pam explained how she refers to the "Smart Recycling Guide" which is put out Mass DEP to answer questions and concerns about recycling. She holds a monthly talk at the COA on proper recycling. Pam will be at the table when the farmers market is in season to further educate residents on proper recycling. The Board thanked Pam for her time.

Andrew and Tracy discussed with the Board the constantly updated information given from Mass DPH and CDC on the Coronavirus. There are 92 confirmed cases in Massachusetts. The governor has declared a state of emergency. Andrew handed out the Massachusetts Public Health Fact Sheet on 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the World Health Organization (WHO) information to the Board. This describes in detail how to prevent COVID-19 and how to manage employee travel etc. It is advised for people over 60 years of age and those that have underlying illnesses to avoid large gatherings. There are no confirmed cases in town. He compared the Coronavirus to the current flu outbreak. Handwashing and covering up a cough are essential not to spread germs. Also, if anyone is sick with symptoms they are advised to stay home. Andrew is part of a group of town officials that meet weekly to give updates on the Coronavirus. There is a 14 day mandatory quarantine for anyone who traveled to Italy. On Thursday March 12th, the North Shore Coalition will be meeting to further discuss the recent occurrences with the Coronavirus. Recently, some colleges have closed for the remainder of the semester. Day by day there continues to be changes and advisories given.

MOTION to approve meeting minutes of January 14th and January 15, 2020 as submitted. All in favor and motion passed.

MOTION to approve meeting minutes of February 4, 2020 as corrected. All in favor and motion passed.

New Business:

On Tuesday, March 17th the League of Women Voters will sponsor a dinner at The Landing Restaurant 81 Front Street, to support composting in the schools. The event runs from 5:30 – 9pm.

Helaine asked about the parking lot of the former General Glover restaurant in Swampscott. The parking lot is located in Marblehead and currently has local landscaping trucks parking there. Any further questions need to be directed to Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Smith Street residence is improving with ongoing cleanup of the property.

Todd stated he would like to discuss composting at the upcoming town meeting.

MOTION to close meeting. All in favor and motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Andrea Flaxer
Senior Clerk