

MARBLEHEAD BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES, September 29, 2020

Present: Chm. Todd Belfbecker, Helaine Hazlett, Michelle Gottlieb, Andrew Petty, Director
Also Present: Dr. Tom Krueger (League of Women Voters)

Web-based video conferencing meeting of Board of Health via Zoom.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

MOTION to approve meeting minutes of September 9th as submitted. All in favor and motion passed.

MOTION to approve meeting minutes of September 15th as amended. All in favor and motion passed.

Andrew stated there have been 272 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Marblehead and no recent deaths. There are less than five active cases currently.

The governor announced as of September 29th that the reopening process could move forward from Phase 3 Step 1 (P3S1) to Phase 3 Step 2 (P3S2) as of October 5, 2020. In order for a town to begin P3S2 the town could not be in the “red” zone in any of the last 3 week MA DPH reports. This relates to a select and limited low risk activities and businesses. The governor announced a revised gathering order. Indoor and outdoor performance areas are limited to 250 people. Indoor gatherings remain at a maximum of 25 people. Outdoor gatherings at private residences remain at 50 people.

Restaurants are still limited to a party of ten at a table. Patrons can sit at the bar to be served meals and drinks by a server with the next party at least 6 feet away. There is no bar service for drinks only. The distancing between parties must be 6 feet or more and plexi-glass can't be used to shorten the distance. Menus that can be disinfected between each party can now be used. The disinfectant consists of a bleach/water solution or quaternary ammonia which is also used to wipe down tables.

Andrew stated that he is working with other North Shore health officials to provide some Halloween guidelines. A “touchless delivery” of handing out candy is suggested. Also, large gatherings and costume parties are not recommended. Candy should not be left outside for trick or treaters to take a treat.

The preferred test for COVID-19 is Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR). PCR tests are used to directly detect the presence of an antigen, rather than the presence of the body's immune response, or antibodies.

Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 17th at 9am.

Todd would like the Board to draft a statement for Article 25 – Leaf Blowers and Article 29 – Sustainable Marblehead – Greenhouse Gas Emissions for the next meeting on October 6th.

Helaine read aloud a thank you note from the transfer station employees for the coffee and muffins sent from the Board for all their hard work.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm

Andrea Flaxer
Senior Clerk

