

MARBLEHEAD BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES, October 19, 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 October 6th as submitted. All in favor and motion passed.

Andrew stated there have been 287 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Marblehead and no recent deaths. Beginning next week he will provide the case count for the town on Thursday afternoon rather than Monday afternoon in order to be in line with the state. (The state's data comes out on Wednesday afternoons). The local school department will provide case information each Friday.

The difference between "isolate" and "quarantine" has raised many questions. Andrew explained that isolate means keeping someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home. Quarantine means that someone who was in close contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19 needs stay home until 14 days after the last contact with that COVID-19 positive person. While quarantining, check your temperature twice a day and watch for symptoms of COVID-19. If possible, stay away from people who are at higher-risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.

A code red call went out to residents this evening. The purpose of the call was to reinforce importance of social distancing, wearing facial coverings and hand washing. Also, with the holiday season fast approaching and more indoor activities it is imperative that these practices continue. Currently, the town is in a yellow zone indicating a potential community spread. Mass.gov website provides the most current up to date information on COVID-19.

Town meeting took place on Saturday, October 17th. A large turnout of 300 people was in attendance. Article 13 relating to blue light initiative for winter parking passed and Article 25 about the use of leaf blowers was indefinitely postponed.

Helaine attended the reopening committee meeting today and gave an update. She stated that all principal's from each school spoke and felt that school was going well. The North Shore superintendents' round table all supports the parameter of 6 feet separation of desks and tables. Dr. Buckey would like to form a health advisory committee including: Andrew Petty, Deanna McMahon RN, physician, epidemiologist and a public health professional. The committee could help formulate a health matrix about classes meeting remote, hybrid or in person based on case count and the color zone the town is in at that time.

The athletic director stated that practices and games are going well. All athletes are wearing proper facial coverings. Any student wishing to have breakfast or lunch is available at no cost until the end of June.

MOTION to close account 214 ProQuip Golf USA for charge use at the transfer station. All in favor and motion passed.

MOTION to close meeting. All in favor and motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm Andrea Flaxer – Senior Clerk

