

MARBLEHEAD BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES, December 22, 2020

Present: Chm. Todd Belfbecker, Michelle Gottlieb, Helaine Hazlett, 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

Andrew spoke about Governor Baker's temporary order. Order #59 effective 12/26/20 at 12:01am, several industries including:

- Restaurants
- Theaters
- Casinos
- Office space
- Places of worship
- Retail
- Libraries
- Lodging
- Museums
- Fitness centers
- Health clubs will be only allowed to have a 25% capacity limit. Workers and staff do not count toward the occupancy.

Also, indoor gatherings will be limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings will be limited to 25 people. This applies to private homes, public spaces and event venues.

Andrew told the Board there was 558 confirmed cases to date, 117 new cases in the past two weeks, and 3031 tests were taken in the past 14 days and a positive rate of 4.32%, and 31 confirmed deaths in Marblehead since the week of December 18th. Currently, there are 81 active cases of COVID-19. It is important review the safe holiday practices as discussed at the last meeting. The travel guidelines are available on mass.gov. This talks about self-quarantining for 14 days upon entering and returning from out of state and producing a negative COVID test to return to work or school.

The COVID vaccinations will be administered in three phases. Phase 1 Dec-Feb, Phase 2 Feb-April and Phase 3 April – June. Mass.gov provides criteria for who will be eligible for the vaccine in each phase. These vaccinations will be entered into a state database followed by the second dose of the vaccine in 21-28 days later.

There has been an increase of cases in Marblehead (10-12 cases a day) and as a result the CDC contact tracing group has assisted the department with making the necessary phone calls etc.

Helaine met with the Reopening Committee on December 21st. The schools are maintaining the 6 feet social distancing between teachers and students. She stated that policies can change day to day and at times building to building. Winter sports began practicing on December 18th and will continue through the week and during vacation. If a team player contracts COVID-19 the entire team would need to quarantine. The committee plans on meeting through June.

MOTION to close meeting. On a polled vote the Board voted as follows: Mrs. Hazlett, in favor; Ms. Gottlieb, in favor; Dr. Belfbecker, in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Andrea Flaxer
Senior Clerk