

MARBLEHEAD BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES, April 5, 2021

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 the Board of Health via Zoom.

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm.

Andrew told the Board on April 2nd there was a total of 1252 cases of COVID-19 in town. There have been 2 to 3 cases a day and currently there are 21 active cases. Also, the age groups of 0-19 and 40-49 tend to have the most cases. Vaccinations are going extremely well. At present, 3823 residents have received the first dose and 5172 have been fully vaccinated. This represents 46% of the population here in town. Beginning on April 19th residents who are ages 16 and up will be eligible to receive the vaccination.

Andrew and other coalition members from surrounding communities are speaking with the state to possibly hold clinics at the Salem State University O'Keefe Center. The requirements for the clinics would be to vaccinate 750 people a day and operate Monday through Friday. An ambulance company would be ideal to manage and assist in the clinics.

The Marblehead Covid Mental Health Task Force had their first meeting on Monday, March 29th. The group is in the beginning stages of gathering data, assessing needs and deciding on possible actions with the goal of acting as a connector. At the next meeting on April 12th at 7pm a timeline will be established.

Director's Report

Andrew reviewed the expectations of the transfer station. A new scale house is necessary and improving the flow through the transfer station and building a new swap shop. The scale needs to be placed in a permanent location. The OPM and architects are working together on plans and estimated costs. Andrew also discussed how trash is being blown around at the transfer station when the winds are high. A solution to this issue would be to install a fence around the area to catch the debris. A water break occurred on the lower tractor trailer road and was quickly fixed by the water & sewer department. The state continues to monitor the transfer station for pollutants (recently an increase in alkalinity was noted and if necessary the MA DEP will be consulted.)

New Business

Michelle Gottlieb, a 12 year member of the Board of Health has announced she will not be seeking another term. Her family has relocated to Utah. Todd and Helaine both remarked on her knowledge and enthusiasm on public health and said that it has been appreciated. Andrew said that it has been a pleasure working with Michelle. She will be missed by all.

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 8:12pm.

Andrea Flaxer
Senior Clerk

