

Wellesley Board of Health
CONFERENCE CALL
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2020
2:30 pm

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, MPA, Chair
Marcia Testa Simonson, MPH, PhD, Vice Chair
Linda Oliver Grape, PA-C, MPH, Secretary
Carol Hannenberg, MD, Associate Member

Staff:

Ann Marie McCauley, Public Health Nurse Supervisor
Holly Detroy, Environmental Health Agent
Deadra Doku-Gardner, Administrator
Leonard Izzo, Director
Cheryl Lefman, Community Health Coordinator
Joyce Saret, Community Social Worker

In attendance:

John Lanza, Advisory Committee, Liaison
Beth Sullivan Woods, Board of Selectmen

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 pm.

The Board of Health approved the following minutes: June 3, 2020.

1. Administration

a) Director's Report

Leonard Izzo provided the following updates:

- Mr. Izzo elaborated on recent issues surrounding Coronavirus in the Town of Wellesley.

b) Healthy Wellesley Fund

The Board of Health voted to approve the use of up to \$10k from the Healthy Wellesley Fund for the purchase of flu vaccine for the 2020-2021 flu season.

c) Social Worker Position

Leonard Izzo and Joyce Saret believe the social worker position has been posted by Human Resources (HR). Joyce Saret has been assisting the staff at HR with ideas and suggestions as to where to post the position.

Ms. Saret also reported the school social workers will be working one day a week for ten weeks during the summer vacation.

d) Morses Pond

Leonard Izzo confirmed that Morses Pond beach will be closed for supervised swimming. Mr. Izzo said there will be no lifeguards on duty and park rangers will be hired to patrol the area.

e) Newton Wellesley Hospital Community Benefits Meeting

Shep Cohen reported that he was on the Community Benefits conference call yesterday, as was Cheryl Lefman.

Cheryl Lefman reported that the Hospital's needs assessments will be conducted in 2021. NWH's director of diversity and inclusion (and coordinator of the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Program) discussed issues around patients and communities of color and other underrepresented/at-risk populations and welcomed feedback and recommendations from attendees. COVID19 response and current status at the Hospital was covered as well.

f) Metrowest COVID-19 Restaurant Grant

As noted at a previous meeting, the Board of Health was awarded a grant of \$6,000 to provide a restaurant meal (one time) to identified residents impacted by COVID-19. Joyce Saret reported the program is going well and will come to a close in two weeks.

g) Metrowest COVID-19 Merchant Grant (Wellesley Square Merchants Association)

As noted at the last meeting, the Board of Health along with the Wellesley Square Merchants Association were awarded a grant of \$15,000 to assist the merchants in preparing their locations for retail visitors. Wellesley

retailers will be provided PPE containing masks, thermometers and other items necessary to re-open safely.

At today's meeting, Ann Marie McCauley reported they are awaiting the delivery of supplies (expected to arrive within the week).

2. Community Health

a) Mental Health and Social Services

Joyce Saret provided a brief summary of social work services being provided throughout town.

Ms. Saret reported that the meal programs are going well, however the programming will be ending in the next week. Ms. Saret is working with other town social workers on further assisting the families.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

b) Council on Aging (COA)

Joyce Saret reported the COA voted on a new director on Thursday, June 4, 2020.

Ms. Saret noted that COA outreach worker Kate Burnham will be taking a leave of absence. The COA will hire someone on a temporary basis. They may have a candidate to cover during Kate's absence.

3. Public Health Nursing

c) Coronavirus – cases, etc.

Ann Marie McCauley reported there are two new cases today.

4) Environmental Health

a) Camps

Ann Marie McCauley has been reviewing camp applications with the nursing staff. She reported only three camps (out of the normally 40+camps) will be in operation in Wellesley this summer.

Ms. McCauley noted the Recreation Department decided (last night) they will not be running camps this year.

Joyce Saret provided information on Recreation Department plans for activities for Barton Road families during the summer.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

b) Mosquito Planning

Leonard Izzo reported he will leave the BOH conference call to attend a mosquito planning meeting.

c) Pools

Holly Detroy reported that the environmental health staff is working through the pool permitting process.

d) Sustainable Wellesley- Leaf Blowers

Shep Cohen reported that he would like to support and co-sponsor (along with the Sustainability Committee and NRC) a forum on leaf blowers. The Board of Health did not agree to sponsor the forum.

Additional information will be provided at a later date.

e) Town Parks

Leonard Izzo reported that the Natural Resource Commission and the Department of Public Works will be posting signs to notify residents that the parks are open.

Playgrounds will be open, however there will be guidelines/signage provided on the cleaning of equipment.

f) Food Establishments

Holly Detroy and Leonard Izzo reported that restaurants are now open for outdoor dining.

Beth Sullivan woods reported that she received feedback that the Health Department has been processing applications quickly, so establishments can operate.

The next conference call of the Board of Health is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 2:30 pm.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner

Administrator

Documents reviewed during this meeting and on-file in the Health Department:

- NONE