

Wellesley Board of Health  
CONFERENCE CALL (via Zoom)  
Meeting Minutes  
August 31, 2020  
11:30 AM

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, MPA, Chair  
Marcia Testa Simonson, MPH, PhD, Vice Chair  
Linda Oliver Grape, PA-C, MPH, Secretary

Staff:

Ann Marie McCauley, Public Health Nurse Supervisor  
Deadra Doku-Gardner, Administrator  
Leonard Izzo, Director  
Cheryl Lefman, Community Health Coordinator

In attendance:

Beth Sullivan Woods, Board of Selectmen

This was a remote meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 11:34 am.

**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) Department of Public Health Update- Travel Ban

Leonard Izzo reported on the travel ban that went into effect on Saturday, August 1, 2020. At that time, all New England states were considered to be low risk. Mr. Izzo reported effective Friday 8/7/20, Rhode Island was no listed as a lower-risk state.

c) Advisory Committee

Marcia Testa Simonson and Leonard Izzo will be addressing the Advisory Committee on September 9, 2020.

d) Wellesley Public Schools – School Reopening Plan - Testing

Shepard Cohen reported that the school administration has an agreement with teachers to conduct surveillance testing to get the teachers back into the classrooms. The Board of Health (BOH) agreed that they do not recommend the testing of every child in the public schools. Shepard Cohen reported on the email he received from Linda Chow last night.

The BOH agreed that testing should focus on teachers, symptomatic children, and quick testing of a classrooms (where a symptomatic person has been).

Beth Sullivan Woods reported that Wellesley Public Schools will be in remote classrooms until October 1 and then will go to a hybrid model. Having the children back in the classroom will be dependent on the schools having testing in place.

Leonard Izzo disseminated the Request for Proposal (RFP) Safer Teachers, Safer Students: SARS-CoV-2 Testing Pilot Program for review. Beth Sullivan Woods reported that the BOH are not in a collaborative and the Board of Selectmen made this clear at their last meeting.

## 2. Community Health

a) Influenza Vaccine

Mr. Izzo anticipates the Health Department will conduct a drive thru flu clinic. Plans have not been finalized. The department will vaccinate children over the age of 6.

b) Coronavirus – cases, etc.

Ann Marie McCauley (public health nurse supervisor) reported that students going to school out of state are coming back with positive test results. They are not living in Wellesley.

Marcia Testa Simonson reported that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts numbers continue to steadily go down, currently to .9%.

- c) Facilities Maintenance Department (FMD) metrics  
Leonard Izzo reported that he received and has provided Marcia Testa Simonson with a document of the FMD staff demographics and where they are working.

#### **4) Environmental Health**

- a) Sporting Groups and Fields  
Leonard Izzo reported that he has notified different town departments about sporting groups he has received complaints about. There seems to be a general noncompliance among sporting groups. It is a mandate that masks be worn during these activities.

The next conference call of the Board of Health is scheduled for September 2, 2020. The time will be announced.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner  
Administrator

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

- Request for Proposals (RFP) Safer Teachers, Safer Students: SARS-CoV-2 Testing Pilot Program