

A joint meeting of the Melrose and Wakefield Boards of Health was held remotely on June 3rd, 2020. The meeting came to order at 7:06 pm. Present at the meeting remotely were Melrose Board members Maurine Garipay, Carol Ann Licitra and Frank Brincheiro, Wakefield Board members Laurel Gourville, Elaine Silva, and Candace Linehan as well Health Director Ruth Clay, Cindy Luongo and Mark Sardella the Wakefield Item, Mike Carraggi of the Patch, owners of Treat Wellness Dax and Maria Grantham and resident Brian Corbett.

Melrose BOH approved minutes from the May 27th, 2020 meeting with one change. Garipay yes, Brincheiro yes Licitra yes, 3- 0-0

Wakefield BOH approved minutes from the May 27th, 2020 meeting with one change, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes 3-0-0

Public participation

Dax and Maria Grantham, owners of Treat Wellness was on the meeting to listen in only, they are preparing for re-opening their business. Dax had asked about the emergency order that the BOH had on personal service businesses. They understand they are in phase 2 of re-opening. Clay said that Board of Health order was repealed last week. Gourville said it was repealed to be in sync with the governor's order. Clay explained there are 2 parts to phase 2. Step 1 and Step 2. They have not announced the date for step 2 which includes spa services

Doug Lyons was on the agenda however last night the school committee cancelled their meeting and are moving forward with the original graduation plan of small groups on Landrigan Field June 13th and 14th.

Health Director's Report

COVID 19 numbers as of yesterday for Melrose 240 and Wakefield 299

COVID19 testing for employees from Melrose and Wakefield was today at Wakefield Town Hall. The turnout for testing was low with 17 Melrose employees and 34 for Wakefield. A minimum of 50 was required to set up the testing which is why the the two towns were combined. Plans for a public drive thru testing should be released on Friday. It will be held at Melrose City Hall parking lot.

Camp guidelines have been released from the state. An email has been sent all camps asking to let us know if they are running this season. Up to date Immunizations will not be waived and will still be required for all campers. The regulations are the same with some added new information. Guidance is on Mass.gov. Sailing camp in Wakefield is not doing a camp and just lessons. Overnight camps is Phase 3.

Garipay asked about seasonal pools. Clay said outdoor pools are supposed to be phase 2. We have not received guidance on pools. We have told people they can start working on getting ready to open. They usually open Memorial Day weekend.

Outdoor dining is other big issue. The state has guidance out now on the website. Places that currently have outdoor dining can already start when phase 2 starts. Both communities are working on a plan for parking lot and parking spaces use. This Monday Wakefield Town Council will be having a meeting and Steve Maio will be presenting a plan to them.

Wakefield Town Meeting is June 20th. Clay did a walkthrough of the field house with DPW, the Town Moderator, Steve Maio, and WCAT for set up.

Gourville asked how many calls are coming into the Health Department and how can we get more information out on our website to field some of the calls that come in. Clay will talk with the communication director about positing specific guidelines.

Melrose: The budget hearing is next Thursday night, The BOH doesn't have to be there although welcome to be. The board is new and may have questions.

Wakefield election June 23rd 10-2 is voting but absentee ballots are available and easy to do.

Other business

Public drive thru info will be announced. You will need to be pre-register for the test and it is the nasal test. Information when available will be on the websites and aired on the Mayor Brodeur nightly video.

Other items that are not COVID related that FDA grant should hear sometime in June. Melrose has a school nurse grant. As not all of the screening was completed, there will be moneys still available. The balance will be spent on additional masks, thermometers, and extra supplies. Linehan asked if people still using the hotel for self-isolation. Clay said in general yes although we have not had a lot of people who needed it. We have not been using all 13 rooms but it has been good that it is available.

Frank Brincheiro reported seeing people coming back to the office for appointments although still using tele health. Kids will come back for vaccine and physicals that they have been putting off.

Linehan reported that they have been challenged with employers requesting testing for their employees to return work. Linehan said they are writing lots of letters to the employers to say they can go back to work.

Vice Chair Silva took over the meeting as Chairperson Gourville had to leave.

Garipay asked when City Hall Melrose would open. Clay said that no firm date has been set at this time.. Wakefield is opening to the public on June 15th.

Melrose BOH Licitra motioned to close the meeting seconded by Brincheiro, motion passed 3-0-0. Garipay yes, Brincherio yes, Licitra yes adjourned 7:47pm

The boards decided that since phase 2 will open next week this may present us with new issues and calls. Therefore they will not have a meeting next Wednesday. The next meeting will be June 17.

Wakefield Linehan motioned to close the meeting seconded by Silva, motion passed 2-0. Silva yes, Linehan yes meeting adjourned 0752

Next meeting June 17th, 2020 7:00 PM via zoom.

Materials distributed

Agenda

Draft Minutes 5.27. 20

Health Directors Report

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cindy Luongo".

Cindy Luongo

