



# TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

## BOARD OF HEALTH

Elaine M. Silva, Chair  
Candace Linehan  
Laurel Skinder Gourville

The Wakefield Board of Health held their monthly meeting December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 PM remotely

Present: Laurel Gourville  
Candace Linehan  
Elaine Silva

Not Present:

### Topics of Discussion

#### Call to Order

Chairperson Silva called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

#### Public Participation

Wakefield resident Deborah Surabian, no comments just listening

#### Approval of Minutes

Gourville motioned to accept the minutes from November 18<sup>th</sup> with one correction, seconded by Linehan motion passed 3.0.0  
Gourville yes, Linehan yes, Silva yes.

#### Health Directors Report

COVID-19:  
Clay sent the BOH the updated spreadsheet of positive COVID-19 tests per day. Today's Wakefield COVID number is 935. This Monday there were 26 positive cases from the Sunday COVID testing. There was 725 people tested that Cataldo Ambulance reported, 32 positive cases: 5 people under age 19, one HS, one MS, and 1 elementary schooler, two others were not in the Wakefield school system. The town tested 20 school department staff, 10 town employees and 1 WMLD department employee. Next COVID testing in Wakefield is December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Northeast Vocational School parking lot. With our emergency funds, last year we purchased an inflatable light that were used for the testing. The testing went very smoothly. Administrative help were Town employees who passed out information and checked people's IDs. Cataldo will give us the latest signups for next clinic by Friday.

With money from our revolving fund or PHEP money will we purchase more of those lighting fixtures for COVID vaccinations in the spring.

COVIDs latest news on today's call with DPH: If we have interest and the capacity we can immunize our first responders in the first weeks of January. Clay will be meeting with Tom Walsh EMD, Steve Maio, and Chief Sullivan and Chief Skory about the covid vaccine clinics. This will be taking place the second week in January. As we need to have at least 200 responders to qualify for this, we will be doing it in conjunction with the Mystic Valley Public Health Collaborative. The clinic dates will be staggered and offered in multiple town. There will be some



cost to the Town, as we are only reimbursed \$40.50 pp for both shots. There is no cost for the vaccine however there is some ancillary costs. Anyone who works at the clinics will get vaccinated too. We will use a new software system, Predmod for the clinics. This software will put information into the MIIS system, do the billing to the insurance companies for reimbursement, and have the ability to send out reminders.

We will be receiving the Modera vaccine not the Pfizer. It is an extensive questionnaire when administering the vaccination. People will complete their consent form with screening questions when they register on-line.

Silva has heard comments from other health departments and first responders, regarding the first round of covid vaccine. Some people may be leery of the shot and will wait until others have gotten the second shot to get their first shot.

Clay has completed the training for Maven. After she has access she will be able to run reports such as a report to tell you how many cases were sent to CTC.

The Health department has hired a nurse full time 30 hours solely for contact tracing Wakefield residents. She is also waiting to get into the Maven training. Two pre-schools and a healthcare provider were new cases with a list of contacts just this Monday. The tracing is very time consuming.

Coral and Cindy have both completed Maven training and are waiting for test results. Coral will do interviewing and Cindy will help with the Maven.

Other news:

Tobacco Tufts Convivence (JLM) in Greenwood was fined \$1000. That is the new fine structure by state law. They are selling flavored tobacco product's secretly. Maureen Buzby was able to find the contraband hidden behind the counter.

Gourville asked about the donation bins and whether the Health Dept has jurisdiction. Clay we do not permit them but we do address them as a public health nuisance if necessary. We have occasional problems with the bins at the Church in Greenwood. We had a past issue with the bins at Mikes Gym. Gourville said the Woodville School also has bins. Staff monitors the locations; if there continue to have issues we will tell them they are a public health nuisance and are ordered to remove them. Linehan suggested we could put out information about the pink bag clothing donations.

Clay can give updates on the First responders clinics before the next meeting. Linehan asked if our nurses will get vaccinated. Clay said anyone who works at the clinics will be offered vaccination.

Silva motioned to adjourn the meeting, Linehan seconded the motion, motion passed 3.0.0 , Gourville yes. Linehan yes, Silva Yes.

**Handouts**

1. Agenda
2. Draft minutes
3. Daily numbers

Next meeting will January 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 remotely  
Meeting adjourned at 08:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Luongo', with a stylized, flowing script.

Cindy Luongo