



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

BOARD OF HEALTH

Elaine M. Silva, Chair
Candace Linehan
Laurel Skinder Gourville

The Wakefield and Melrose Boards of Health held a remote joint meeting on February 11, 2021 at 8:30 pm. Present at the meeting were board members Wakefield Elaine Silva, Laurel Gourville, Candace Linehan and Health Director Ruth Clay as well as Melrose Board members Maurine Garipay, Frank Bincheiro, and Carol Ann Licitra.

Public comment: Steve Maio noted that as of this time there were 250 signed up for the 75+ vaccination clinic. He noted that people were coming locally, not like the people who go to Fenway Park from far away. He was concerned that our local elders not be shut out from receiving their vaccination due to caregivers taking up many of the slots. He would like a limit of one caregiver per person 75+. He also noted that are reports of a number of scams happening as people who are not eligible try to get vaccinated.

Public comment closed.

Policy of allowing caregivers of people 75+ to be vaccinated: Clay gave a summary of the Governor's announcement from the day before and noted she had sent a copy of the information to all Board members. Gourville said it would be difficult for the town to have a different message from the state. She was also concerned about caregivers who are in close contact with the elderly. Silva and Linehan agreed with Gourville.

Garipay said that if we had sufficient vaccine she was in favor of allowing caregivers. Brincheiro noted that there have been some abuse of the current guidelines but that was human nature and that it should not stop the Board from adopting the policy. Mayor Brodeur expressed his thanks to all and said he was in favor of adopting the policy.

Motion made by Licitra, seconded by Brincheiro to adopt the Governor's 75+ Caregiver Policy effective February 17. Licitra yea, Brincheiro yea, Garipay yea. Motion passed 3:0:0.

Gourville made a motion to allow one caregiver who accompanies an elder 75+ to be vaccinated effective February 26, 2021; seconded by Linehan. Vote Silva yea, Gourville yea, Linehan yea. Motion passed 3:0:0.

Tom Walsh joined the meeting. He noted that he is a "numbers person" and with more than 2000 Wakefield residents over the age of 75 and 700 doses of vaccine, he recommended that caregivers not be allowed to be vaccinated. Clay noted that it appears that a great number of seniors have been vaccinated as when the COA Director, Judy Luciano, called 35 people over the age of 75 to assist them with making an appointment, only ten still needed an appointment.

Motion made to adjourn by Gourville, seconded by Linehan. Gourville yea, Linehan, yea, Silva yea. Motion passed 3:0:0

Meeting adjourned 9:12 pm

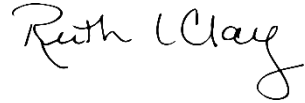


Material distributed:

Agenda

Governor's policy 75+ Caregiver Eligibility

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth L. Clay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "C".

Ruth Clay