

Ashland Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2021

Diane Mortensen, Chair
Ronald Etskovitz, Member

Chris Daniele, Vice Chair
Koduvayur Narayana, Member
Barbra Sekesogundu Simon, Member

Members Present Via Zoom Meeting:

Chris Daniele, Ron Etskovitz and Koduvayur Narayana

Members Absent:

Diane Mortensen

Others Present:

Laura Clifford, BOH Admin. Secretary
Sgt. Ed Burman, Ashland PD
Jenn Ball, Assistant Town Manager
Mike Pieslak, Store Manager, Market Basket
Pat Ackerley, Lanterns at Warren Woods, The Green Company
Greg Howell, Lanterns at Warren Woods, The Green Company

Call Meeting to Order - 6:00 PM

Mr. Daniele called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM and noted the meeting would be broadcast live on WACA-TV.

Citizen's Participation

None.

Covid-19 Update

Sergeant Burman noted that last Thursday was the Second Dose Vaccine Clinic at the Community Center, it went very well. The regional collaborative, consisting of Ashland, Hopkinton, Holliston, Westborough, Northborough, Boylston and Southborough, held three clinics; 1,051 doses of vaccine were distributed. Sgt. Burman explained that 75% of the doses go out to the people who pre-registered on the State vaccine website. The other 25% are allocated to the seven towns in the collaborative. A reverse 9-1-1 call was put out to the residents of Ashland and within one hour 60 slots were filled.

COVID numbers are staying about the same, there have been no spikes but we are seeing an increase in spread at daycares. If a student in a daycare classroom is positive, we recommend they quarantine the class. Sergeant Burman discussed the waitlist that will be set up and shared with the other towns, so that no doses are wasted.

Consent Agenda

- a. Rajit Gupta New Health Agent/Director Consent
- b. YTD Budget, FY2021
- c. Town Meeting - June 12, 2021
- d. Town Election – May 18, 2021
- e. Drug Take Back Day – April 24, 2021 - Ashland Police Station 10AM-2:00 PM
- f. Minutes Approval

Motion: Mr. Narayana made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Etskovitz seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0. Motion was approved.

Chair's Agenda

- a. Inter-Municipal Agreement for Nursing Services
- b. Medical Reserve Corps. Update/Recruitment
- c. Discuss Agenda Topics for Future Meeting Dates, April 28, 2021(housing hearing), May 4, 2021 (regular meeting)

Mr. Daniele explained that the Chair informed him that there are no significant updates to the items under the Chair's Agenda. Mr. Daniele noted that there may be a housing hearing on April 28th, to watch for email/updates.

Tobacco Regulations Change Public Discussion – Update Violation fines

Mr. Daniele shared the screen to show the Tobacco Regulations, he noted that he has updated the names of the Board Members and included the new Health Agent/Director. At 6:20 PM the Hearing began, there was one tobacco vendor in attendance, Mike Pieslak of Market Basket.

Mr. Daniele explained that, at some point, the State instituted a new fine schedule for violations of sales to minors. It was brought to our attention and we have updated our Regulations accordingly. The new fine amounts are as follows: the first violation is a fine equal to \$1,000; second violation is \$2,500; third violation is \$5,000. Mr. Pieslak noted that a refresher course was given to his courtesy booth clerks. Mr. Daniele thanked Mr. Pieslak for his continued cooperation with the Town.

Lantern Way - Life Guard Requirement Variance Request

Pat Ackerley, of The Green Company, explained that over the past couple of years, the Board has granted them a one-year waiver from the Pool Regulation requiring a lifeguard. Ms. Ackerley noted that this year they are requesting an extended waiver, for three years or permanently. Ms. Ackerley explained that there have been no incidents; they have a Certified Pool Operator who comes in weekly, and pool attendants who test the water six times per day. Greg Howell joined the meeting and noted that the pool is 3-feet-11 inches deep. Mr. Daniele suggested that, because we have a new Health Director starting in May, we grant a one-year extension and revisit next year when the new Health Director is in place.

Motion: Mr. Narayana made a motion to extend the lifeguard waiver for one year and revisit next year. Mr. Etskovitz seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0. Motion approved.

Mr. Narayana asked that they provide well reports as required; Mr. Howell did not recall there being a yearly requirement but will check his notes.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Narayana made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Etskovitz seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0. Motion approved.

The Board adjourned at 6:44 PM.

ASHLAND BOARD OF HEALTH
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT THE 4/20/2021 MEETING
(All items stored in the Board of Health files unless otherwise noted)

1. COVID-19 Number of Cases/Graphs
2. Revised Tobacco Regulations to include State Fines for Sales Violations
3. Letter/request from The Green Company for waiver from Lifeguard Requirement
4. YTD Budget Report
5. A recording of the meeting can be found on WACA-TV