

Wellesley Board of Health  
CONFERENCE CALL  
Meeting Minutes  
April 22, 2020  
2:30 pm

Present:

Board:

Shepard Cohen, MPA, Chair  
Marcia Testa Simonson, MPH, PhD, Vice Chair  
Linda Oliver Grape, PA-C, MPH, Secretary  
Carol Hannenberg, MD, Associate Member

Staff:

Ann Marie McCauley, Public Health Nurse Supervisor  
Steve Calichman, Environmental Health Specialist  
Holly Detroy, Environmental Health Specialist  
Deadra Doku-Gardner, Administrator  
Leonard Izzo, Director  
Cheryl Lefman, Community Health Coordinator  
Joyce Saret, Community Social Worker  
Vivian Zeng, Environmental Health Specialist

In attendance:

Beth Sullivan Woods, Board of Selectmen

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 pm.

Minutes were approved from April 21, 2020.

**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 (see below).

b) Wellesley's COVID-19 Relief Fund (sponsored by the Community Fund for Wellesley/Foundation for MetroWest)

As reported earlier this week, the Community Fund for Wellesley has partnered with the Wellesley Board of Selectmen to create the Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund to support urgent and evolving needs in the Wellesley community.

Linda Oliver Grape and Joyce Saret provided options (for use of the fund) including: meal purchase and delivery from local restaurants to homebound residents and for Human Relations Services (HRS) to conduct mental health webinars.

Ms. Sullivan Woods reported that she and Maura Renzella have an advisory meeting of the Community Fund for Wellesley on Thursday and will review the grant parameters and options. Decisions on recipients of the funding will be made quickly.

Shep Cohen reported that HRS is also working with Temple Beth Elohim on mental health programming and resources.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

## **2. Community Health**

### **a) Marrilac Residences/ Elizabeth Seton**

Shep Cohen reported that he has spoken with the administrator at Marrilac. They asked to borrow a sterilization machine to clean rooms. Leonard Izzo reported that he has been in touch with Meghan Jop in regards to borrowing the unit(s) owned by the Facility Maintenance Department (FMD). Beth Sullivan Woods reported that her husband has a machine valued at \$150k and has offered the use of the machine in the community.

Additional information will be provided at the next meeting.

### **a) Complaints**

Leonard Izzo reported that continues to receive calls in regards to residents not wearing masks.

Leonard Izzo reported on a call he received from David Himmelberger. Mr. Himmelberger is concerned that tenants in office buildings are not notified when a confirmed case of COVID is present their office building.

Leonard Izzo reported that building occupants would only know if the positive case self-reported. The Health Department is only notified of those

individuals that are tested positive and live in Wellesley. The department is not notified of those who only work in the town.

Ann Marie McCauley reported that it is imperative that buildings are cleaned really well a few times a day.

b) PPE Masks

Ann Marie McCauley and Leonard Izzo reconfirmed that the two Wellesley long-term care facilities have been provided with a limited amount of PPE from the Health Department, as well as donated items obtained by the Wellesley Fire Department.

Ann Marie McCauley reconfirmed that masks are worn to protect other people. The Fire Chief is interested in providing masks to seniors and people with weakened immune systems.

Mr. Izzo will speak with the Fire Chief.

**b) Public Health Nursing**

a) Coronavirus – cases, etc.

Ann Marie McCauley reported that there were 31 residents and 10 cases that were suspect. All those tested were in the same long-term care facility. In addition, there were two positive cases in the community.

Ms. McCauley reported that she and the nursing staff are contacting the facilities on a regular basis.

**4) Environmental Health**

b) Landscapers

Leonard Izzo reported on an email complaint he received concerning the blowers being used by landscapers. Landscaping is deemed an essential service by the State.

The next conference call of the Board of Health is scheduled for April 23, 2020 at 2:30 pm.

The Board of Health meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deadra Doku Gardner

Administrator

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

- NONE