



Town of Oak Bluffs
Board of Health
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William White
Chairman

James Butterick
Thomas Zinno
Board Members

Meegan Lancaster
Health Agent

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING – Via Conference Call
March 24, 2020 – MINUTES**

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Lorna Welch, Brian Packish

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

APPOINTMENTS:

- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- February 11, 2020 - Approved

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- Corona Virus Update
 - State Actions, Efforts and Mitigation
 - Regional Actions, Efforts and Mitigation
 - Short Term and Long Term Planning

Ms. Lancaster addressed the Emergency Stay at Home Order put into place by Nantucket yesterday which takes the Governor's order to a higher level due to our isolated geographic location and limited healthcare access by restricting movement and activities to protect the community and health care providers. All town councils have reviewed the local order* to be put into place on MV. She has not had a chance to review the entire document and proceeded to review with the Board. This is a local attempt to limit travel to prevent spread after a joint statement made by MV Hospital and Nantucket Cottage Hospital strongly urging residents to stay at home and only go out for essential activities. We will need to decide effective dates.

Ms. Lancaster contacted Brian Packish to include in this discussion. There is concern that we have to have a separate construction ban voted on. Mr. Packish spoke with Mr. Rappaport and he will have the construction piece to the stay at home order because the problem is all the towns have separate orders that are different which will add to the confusion. The BOH will vote on this order and the BOS will vote to be in unity with the BOH. Ms. Lancaster asked Mr. Packish about a tentative time and day. Mr. Packish replied 5pm, Wednesday, March 25th and would be lifted at 12 noon, April 7th. We will wait for the amended language from Mr. Rappaport, review and vote. Ms. Lancaster asked if this was generally agreeable and the Board responded yes.

Ms. Lancaster suggested once she obtains the amended order, emailing to Board members then reconvene in an emergency session later today to vote. The Board was in agreement.

Ms. Lancaster stated she has been working with the emergency managers, police, fire, etc. They have a full inventory of PPE and they have a shortage of isolation gowns and they have placed an order. The Health Agents have taken on sub-tasks and Ms. Lancaster is the supply chief for this enterprise so far.

The Medical Reserve Corp. is looking to build convalesce kits for people who under quarantine to help them to keep from infecting house hold members.

They are working with Woodside Village to do some outreach.

There is a letter going around talking about the request from the hospital for the National Guard to come to the island to support the hospital. Should we send a letter of support? Mr. Butterick was surprised at first but now thinking about our limited winter staffed police and fire we made need their assistance. This is pending signature by the Town Administrator; Ms. Lancaster asked the Board if they would like to add the BOH as a signatory of support. Mr. Butterick made a motion to support Senator Cyr and the Town Administrator in asking the National Guard to help support with logistics and security on the island during the COVID-19 crisis. All in favor.

Mr. Zinno made a motion to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant.

*DOCUMENTS: Emergency Order of the Oak Bluffs Board of Selectmen and the Oak Bluffs Board of Health