



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
April 7, 2020 – MINUTES**

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Lorna Welch, Aaron Wilson

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

APPOINTMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 25, 2020 – Postpone till next meeting (4/14/20)

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- Discussion of draft recommendations for job-site safety

Ms. Lancaster provided the draft document for the Back to Work Construction Guidelines developed by the island's working group and health agents and reviewed with the Board. Mr. White thought that these guidelines should be the same for all the towns for consistency. Ms. Lancaster confirmed that consistency was a goal and explained that this is Phase 1 and will be the first step in getting people back to work. She also stated that this document still needs to be reviewed by town Council.

AGENT / ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

- Update on COVID-19 response activities

There were 11 confirmed cases as of yesterday. We don't have the numbers for today yet. The island health agents have been working with Dr. Nieder on mask use recommendations and to get messaging out. They are also working with groups that are doing mask sewing and a pilot program for distribution which will probably be on a volunteer basis. She spoke with Matt Poole who stated that he was in Shop & Shop yesterday and about 80% of the people were wearing masks so they feel that the message is getting out there. There was further discussion about mask protocol.

Nurseries and greenhouses are considered essential services as long as they are selling food based plants. She will reach out to our one nursery in town this week. There is guidance for these businesses.

Laura Johnston, Town Clerk, is retiring on April 24th and she currently is the burial agent for the town because the BOH has designated the Town Clerk as the Burial Agent for the municipality. Ms. Lancaster needs to sign a document saying that the interim Clerk, Colleen Morris, is to be the designated primary Burial Agent for the town. She wanted to consult the board and make sure it is ok to sign. The Board stated they were fine with her signing.

Mr. Zinno stated that his term on the Board is up soon. Ms. Lancaster stated that the election is being postponed until June which has come from the State.

Ms. Lancaster confirmed with the Board that they are going to continue to meet weekly. We can also add a meeting if necessary. Next meeting is April 14th.

Aaron Wilson requested a copy of the draft Back to Work Construction Guidelines.

Mr. Butterick spoke with Michael Loberg yesterday and there are 50 more Nitroe systems that have been approved for the Cape and Islands. The Cape will probably get 35 and we might get 15. They do not all have to be allocated to Vineyard Haven so if other people are interested in them or if we are interested in having some of them in Oak Bluffs we can discuss with him when all of this settles down.

Mr. Butterick spoke about Mr. Loberg's concerns about people coming over on the boat and how we would handle informing them about self-quarantining which would have to be voluntary. Mr. Loberg suggested that the National Guard could hand this information out to people in line at Woods Hole which is unlikely to happen. Could it be put on the Steamship Authority employees or State Police? Further discussion ensued.

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

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant.

*DOCUMENTS: Martha's Vineyard Construction Guidelines – Rules for Getting Back to Work Phase 1