



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
May 19, 2021 – MINUTES

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Garrett Albiston, Lorna Welch, Harold Mitchell, Larkin Stallings

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

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- **Review of local mask and construction regulations**
 - Decision to sustain, modify or revoke

Ms. Lancaster stated that effective May 29, 2021 the Governor is going to rescind all of the mask requirements if you are vaccinated to be more in line with the CDC. There are some settings where masks would still be required regardless of vaccination status, including certain medical settings and public transportation. Mr. Butterick made a motion to rescind both regulations and follow State guidelines. All in favor.

- **COVID safety violations - The Ritz**
 - Notice of Violation and determination of fine

Ms. Lancaster stated that last Sunday she went into the Ritz and immediately observed multiple violations. There were people elbow to elbow sitting at the bar and there was not six feet spacing. There was adequate space in that the upper room for people to be seated up there but everybody was just crowded around the bar. She spoke to the girl that was working there and stated that she was going to reach out to Larkin who met her over there about an hour later. Mr. Stallings stated that he observed the exact same thing when he walked in which he reasonably resolved while they were there. Ms. Lancaster stated that she has had multiple complaints about the Ritz when they had a DJ on St. Patrick's Day which was not permitted by the State. This was not the first time speaking to Mr. Stallings about this situation. Mr. Stallings replied that he had taken that Sunday off and he thought he had staff that could follow the guidelines and they did not. When he walked in and saw what he saw he quickly rectified it. If it were not for the employment crisis he could adhere to everything but it's hard and all of us are tired. He is going to bring in more staff from out of State.

The Board decided not to impose a fine to The Ritz at this time. Ms. Lancaster will send Mr. Stallings a letter stating this and citing the violations for his records.

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

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant
5/19/2021