



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
June 9, 2020 – MINUTES**

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Lorna Welch

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

APPOINTMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **May 26, 2020** - Approved
- **June 2, 2020** - Approved

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- **Preferred signage for town businesses and outdoor spaces**

Mr. Zinno has been researching signage for businesses. He stated that the signage that has been used is not very readable. The MV logo is very large and the message about Covid is much smaller and not the main point. He will get back to everyone about which signage will be used consistently throughout the town. He also stated that the Steamship had great signs when coming into VH and would like to see that signage when they start running the boats in OB soon.

- **Review of order requiring mask use in essential services**

Ms. Lancaster stated that we voted in April to require wearing masks at all times when entering essential businesses. New guidance has come out about offices. Our local order that we drafted is somewhat contradictory to what the Governor has come out with. The State order says if you are isolated in a space or maintaining social distance then you do not have to wear the mask. We should have our order in line with the State. Mr. Zinno made a motion to rescind our previous mask order. All in favor. Now we are following the States mask order.

AGENT / ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

- **Testing site update**

Ms. Lancaster stated that people are waiting on hold for a very long time, upwards of one hour, to schedule their Covid test. The Health Agents are having meeting with IHC tomorrow morning to troubleshoot this problem. They have the capacity to do more tests but people cannot get through the appointment process in 6/9/2020

a timely fashion. They have a rotational schedule with the Health Agents so there is an agent at the site every day. Garrett Albiston, part time Shellfish constable, who has also been working in our department is also helping at the testing site. The results for testing are coming back in about 48 hours. They found out that EMS is allowed to do the testing observation at the testing site so they are going to be bringing the testing to the Island Elderly Housing complexes.

Now that Phase 2 is in motion we are getting a lot of questions from many businesses including retail, camps, etc. Ms. Lancaster has concerns about people not understanding the orders. We do not usually have a relationship with the retail shops. She would like to be proactive and stop by and give them our business cards so that if they have any questions they can reach out to us.

Ms. Lancaster replied stated that we may close Circuit Ave on Sundays so the restaurants can have outdoor seating in the street. She feels they should put their plans in writing for their outdoor seating. After speaking with Brian Packish she developed a list of things that we need submitted to the BOH. In the context of them submitting to the Selectmen she would like to have one checklist that meets the needs of both departments. The State is saying that we do not have to inspect but she would rather not wait for complaints and be proactive in getting them set up correctly. Mr. White asked for that checklist to be sent to the Board members. There was further discussion about camps vs. drop in clinics which do not meet the criteria of camps and do not have to follow those guidelines but they would need to follow the general guidelines for businesses.

Mr. Zinno mentioned the requirements that a Spa in Edgartown has put into place. They are doing an antibody test before providing services. Mr. Butterick stated that the antibody testing is not reliable right now.

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

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant.