

Manchester Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Members present:

Paula Filias, Dr. Martin Hahn, Dr. Tonya Colpitts, Joan Cottler, Peter Colarusso

Members absent:

None

Public Health Nurse Update, Mary Higgins

Nurse Higgins reported 174 current cases, with an increase of 10 cases in the past week.

She noted that 10 of the cases are active and explained that “active” case numbers are fluid.

She also provided a description of asymptomatic vs. symptomatic.

School Reopening Update

Dr. Colpitts said that the Ginko Covid pool testing at the middle and high school has not been done, pending privacy and consent discussion at the school. She said that the State Covid pool testing was beginning next week.

Dr. Hahn noted that he is working on mobile van covid testing and wanted to identify this conflict.

He discussed that Emory connected testing, with cost of \$10.0 and testing 97% sensitive.

He noted that the pool testing available to the schools had time limits, 6-week time limit for State pool testing and 4 week time limit for the Ginko pool testing.

Ms. Filias noted that she was very pleased to hear that the schools were reopening.

Homebound Covid Shots

Members discussed the options and conditions related to providing at home covid shots to homebound residents.

Dr. Hahn noted that there are complex logistics involved in providing this service, including the 15-30 minutes observation time. He mentioned private pharmacy providing service two days per week or looking in to the 4 Town collaborative or the City of Gloucester who had hosted the emergency responders' vaccinations.

Vaccine Committee

Dr. Hahn reported that the vaccine committee would be recommending to the Selectmen that the Town go with Conley's Pharmacy to provide Covid shots for those over the age of 75. And suggested that the same 4 Town collaborative or the City of Gloucester might be options for clinics when the next eligibility group is opened.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Ellen Lufkin asked the Board for their permission to begin scheduling the 2021 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, noting that the 2020 event was cancelled due to Coronavirus.

Members all agreed to pursue a June hazardous waste collection day.

Minutes

Members, by roll call vote, on a motion by Peter Colarusso and seconded by Martin Hahn voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 14, 2021 as presented.

MCVP (Mass Covid Vaccine Plan)

Ellen Lufkin asked the Board for permission to submit the Mass Covid Vaccine Program agreement and paperwork for the Board of Health. Nurse Higgins noted that she had provided a prior email stating that she would not sign this paperwork to receive Covid vaccine in the Board of Health and said that Ellen Lufkin's name would have to be on the paperwork in her place. Ms. Lufkin replied that she had received that request and that her own name was on the vaccine agreement, in preparation for Board of Health request and receipt of future Covid-19 vaccine from the State. Members, by roll call vote and on a motion by Peter Colarusso and seconded by Dr. Hahn voted unanimously to submit the MCVP signed agreement to the State.

At 9:16 a.m. members by roll call vote and on a motion by Ms. Filias and seconded by Ms. Cottler, voted unanimously to adjourn the Board of Health Meeting.

As submitted,

Ellen Lufkin

Administrative Assistant