

HAMILTON BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 21, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 817 9280 4725

Members Present: Giselle Perez PhD, Christopher Small, and David Smith (Chair).

Others Present: Christine Lee (Public Health Nurse), Bobbie Cody (Food Inspector).

This meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by David Smith. All were in attendance via Zoom.

**Covid 19 Updates, Reports, and Suggestions**

David Smith updated members with the latest data for Hamilton and Essex County.

David Smith announced the new, immediately effective organizational structure of the Board of Health staff, specifically that Leslie Whelan would focus exclusively on Title 5 and Septic System work and Board of Health needs while Chris Lee would focus exclusively on Covid 19 work and the needs with the assistance of David Smith. According to Mr. Smith, Ms. Whelan was happy with the new arrangement as it would relieve her of a huge and unsustainable overload of work.

The Board discussed how to work together to create and promulgate public health education information from the Board to the town. Board members agreed that the decision to hold weekly meetings would make it easier to discuss and agree on the composition of notices and messages. Board members further agreed that individual members would not post on Facebook, items the represented as from the Board but rather that Michelle Lee Carol would post Board items on the Town website. Bobby Gates would repost the information on social media.

According to David Smith, in a conference call at 3:00 pm on the date of the meeting, the Department of Public Health introduced and explained the new Community Tracing Collaborative, which was being rolled out and would be available free to all cities and towns. Hamilton would take advantage of the system to relieve some of the workload and pressure on Chris Lee.

The Massachusetts Association of Health Boards had made available on its website, excellent information to help local Boards deal with Covid-19 issues. David Smith would forward the information to Board members.

David Smith explained his recent communications with Al Shepard, the Manager of Crosby's and Mr. Smith's visits to the store. Mr. Smith was pleased with all aspects of Crosby's efforts to comply with all of the State's orders and guidance on grocery stores.

Christopher Small described his experience with distributing the face mask order handouts to the businesses he found open on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Small reported that most people seemed pleased that the order was going into effect. According to Mr. Small, one person actually clapped and said "thank you!"

Dr. Perez commented on the question of posting the latest numbers of Covid 19 positives on the Town website. It was agreed to not do a daily posting but more likely a weekly report.

Bobbie Cody presented her report on her inspection of Crosby's Market and the Meadowbrook Farm market on Essex St. Details would be provided in her written report, which would be submitted to the Board subsequent to the meeting.

Chris Lee summarized her Covid-19 work over the past week.

Board members agreed to continue weekly meetings every Tuesday at 5 pm.

**Adjournment**

Motion made to adjourn at 6:00 pm.

Seconded.

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Prepared by:

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Marcie Ricker