



TOWN OF CHARLTON
37 MAIN STREET
CHARLTON, MA. 01507
508-248-2210

BOARD OF HEALTH

April 28, 2020

Members Present:

Matthew Gagner, Chairman
Kathleen Walker, Vice Chairman
Jon Sanborn, Member

Also Present:

Andrew Golas-Town Administrator
James Philbrook-Health Director

- Chairman Matt Gagner called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- Matt started out by talking about statistics of COVID-19. Matt had a meeting yesterday with Jim Philbrook-Health Director, David Singer-Selectmen Chair, and Andrew Golas-Town Administrator. The main focus was what can we do to attempt to reopen Charlton, and if we cannot reopen, what steps can we have ready so that we are ahead of the ball when we can reopen. We have to follow the Mass DPH guidelines. What can we do to let non-essential businesses operate even if it is going against the Governor's Orders. Vice Chairman Kathleen Walker thinks we are still surging. She would not feel comfortable until we start to go down. Member, Jon Sanborn agrees with Kathleen and thinks it would be difficult to open before we get recommendations from DPH and the Governor's office. We don't want to make the cases rise. Matt believes that being able to police if social distancing guidelines are being followed in all work places would be impossible. Also he and Jim agreed that going against anything that the DPH recommends would not be in the best interest of public health and safety. Being cooped up in a house has its down sides as well. Matt has no interest in doing anything other than what the Mass DPH guidelines are suggesting. Jim agrees that it would not be in our best interest to go against the Mass DPH guidelines. The state is planning to reopen on May 18th, 2020 and this could change as well. It also sounds like children's camps for the summer will be canceled, but this is not definite. Kathleen brought up the fact that we live in a very large town and we have plenty of places to get out and walk and we can work in our yards and gardens. In Ireland, they cannot even be out in their yards without getting a fine. We are very fortunate. Matt feels as though our numbers of cases would be a lot higher if we had not followed the DPH guidelines.

- Andrew Golas, Town Administrator stated that we would start to phase the town hall back into business starting on May 18th.
- Kathleen is concerned about the number of people not wearing masks going into convenience stores and McDonalds etc. Jim agrees and thinks that we need to express that the governor has asked everyone to wear masks when going in public places and that we should mandate that anybody working with food should be wearing a mask along with the gloves they already they have to wear.
- Matt proposes that we mandate that all food workers wear a mask. Also, we put in a penalty tree for those that are non-compliant. Kathleen made a motion that this Board rule that any business that deals with the public on a regular basis, that has any food in it at all, wear gloves and a mask and if they don't comply they will be fined. Jon second and all in favor.
- Talk about possibly offering up Charlton as a testing area to check if people have antibodies to COVID-19.
- Jim sent a document to the Board about housing authority guidelines.
- We have received our order for PPE and we have put it in the trailer so that if we have to set up a site we can.
- Discussion about improving the town website.
- John asked about a septic system on Southbridge Road that was discussed at a prior meeting last month. Matt explained that Tom Purcell assisted the engineer in making a field adjustment, so no Board vote was needed.
- Kathleen made motion to adjourn, Jon second all in favor 6:52 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Stager". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "M".