



Town of Mendon  
Board of Health  
Minutes for  
April 22, 2020

Andy Fiske, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Alan Greenberg -Vice Chairman Tom Fichtner - BOH Member, Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Sr. Administrative Assistant to BOH, Mark Bucchino – Emergency Management Director, Max Carbone – BOH Animal Inspector and Dan Byer – Parks Director. There was another caller on the line that did not identify themselves.

Location – Conference Call number 774-462-5991 Participates number 1233

EEE/Animal Bites – Max spoke to issues he is having with getting people to return his phone calls about reports of dog bites that he has been notified about. Because of this, the reporting information isn't as complete as it should be. Max did send some information to Alan concerning West Nile and EEE for animals, particularly horses. Alan then asked a resident (Jane Bellville) and Peter Hawkes (Chairman of the Agricultural Committee) to review it. If they have any comments, they will let Alan know. Once that is done, Alan will share with the Board. Alan had also provided a comment passed on to him that a horse in Florida has already come down with EEE.

Andy had asked Max about the ability for a property owner to have a cow in the front yard of a property. Max responded that this would depend on the guidelines in our Zoning By-Laws. Andy will follow up to get more details about the property situation in question.

Andy then asked Max about the Barn Book. Max has completed it to the best that he could. The book was turned in back in January.

COVID-19 – Missy explained during a Region 2 conference call that Board's of Health might want to look into drive-thru testing sites as a dispensing site for when the time comes. Missy explained that years ago one area was Wood Drive. Emergency Manager Mark Bucchino thought that Morrison Drive would be a good location. Tom F. asked Missy if this was something the State had to approve. Missy said no and that just the Board would need to approve. Missy told them it is just something they should start thinking about and that Chief Kurczy and Chief Kessler should be part of that conversation. Andy asked Missy to invite them to the next meeting to get their input.

Next, Missy spoke to the Board about an issue reported at Lambert's. Missy confirmed that nurseries are considered an allowed "exception" to the list of Essential Services. Missy next mentioned that the Mendon Drive-In would be opening their concession stand as a "take-out". Also, Missy stated that the Mendon Drive-In may consider getting a "Change of Use" but that this would involve Planning Board approval.

Next, Dan Byer spoke to the Board about the recreation program. Dan is just waiting for guidance from the State. He is hoping to have half a season, since these programs are not essential according to the State. Tom offered to Dan that maybe he could file for an exemption with the State.

Next, Tom spoke to some of the COVID-19 statistics in Massachusetts. Missy confirmed that Mendon has 10 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Next, Mark Buccchino spoke to testing options for first responders & commented that per the CDC, next winter could be a very tough time. Mark also mentioned that he was approached By Evergreen Centers & he put them in touch with MEMA. Mark also stated that the Governor Has approved KN95 masks for First Responders. Mark is still looking to decipher the core differences between the KN95 & the N95 mask types. Mark commented that Milford had just Made it mandatory that everyone needs to wear a face covering when entering public places. Also, Mark is putting in another order for PPE for the Police Dept. & asked if the BOH needed anything. Response was that the BOH is set at the moment.

Andy brought up the thought of the Southwick Zoo opening for business. Mark is waiting to Get some confirmation from the State & is preparing to go based on what the Governor provides.

Tom asked Missy about how things have been going in Town with regard to any compliance issues or complaints. Missy reports that all is ok.

Alan thanked Mark for his services & noted that the issue will be social distancing and how this will work as we start to open up.

Mark noted that the Lion's Club donated a thermal scanner to the Fire Dept. Andy brought up the point of a thermal scanner being needed for wrapping up construction at the new Police Station.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan seconds the motion. Both members agreed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Next meeting will be April 29, 2020

**Approved May 20, 2020**