



Town of Westwood
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
BOARD OF HEALTH

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Jared Orsini, REHS/RS, Health Director
Jason Belmonte, REHS/RS, Food Inspector/Sanitarian
Lorraine Donovan, Administrative Assistant
Margaret M. Sullivan, R.N., M.S.N., Public Health Nurse

Roger L. Christian, M.D., Chairperson
Carol Ahearn, R.N., B.S.N
Shelley Reeve, R.N., B.S.N., J.D

Minutes of the Westwood Board of Health meeting held on December 15, 2020

The meeting began at 4:40PM and was held by remote participation via Zoom, Westwood Media hosting and live streaming.

Members Present: Roger Christian, M.D., Chairperson
Carol Ahearn, R.N., B.S.N
Shelley Reeve, R.N., B.S., J.D.

Staff Present: Jared Orsini, REHS/RS, Health Director
Jason Belmonte, REHS/RS, Food Inspector/Sanitarian
Lorraine Donovan, Administrative Assistant
Margaret M. Sullivan, R.N., M.S.N., Public Health Nurse

Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2020

Ms. Reeve moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Ahearn seconded, approved 3-0-0.

Health Director Report:

COVID-19 Town Report:

Westwood has had an increase in COVID cases with over 100 in November, to date there have been 345 since the pandemic started.

Governor Baker has issued a rollback to Phase 3, Step 1. This limits crowd sizes to 25 people inside and 50 outside and all events must end by 9:30PM. Among some of the changes, restaurants cannot seat more than 6 people at a table and there is a 90 minute time limit for dining.

The Pfizer COVID vaccine has been approved for use here in Massachusetts and about 60,000 doses are expected. The Moderna vaccine has cleared FDA approval and this will also be sent to Massachusetts. There are 3 phases of prioritization for who can receive the vaccine and there is a long way to go in planning the distribution and administration of it.

Mr. Orsini thanks Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Donovan for their effort in getting the Westwood vaccine application submitted to DPH.

There will be flu vaccine available to employees in the next couple of weeks. There are not many employees anticipated, due to the availability of the vaccine elsewhere and the fact that most people have received flu shots already.

COVID-19 School Report:

The Health Department continues to work with the COVID team at the Westwood School Department. Winter sports are starting soon and there are additional concerns with everyone being indoors more. The Medical Advisory group is also working with the schools to offer guidance on keeping students and staff safe.

Ms. Ahearn asks how many cases of students with COVID have there been and Mr. Orsini does not have all the data on hand at the moment, however, he knows there were about 8 or 9 cases in school age children last week.

In home transmission is how many cases of the virus is spreading now. Ms. Sullivan has been working diligently to educate residents with information to stop the spread. Dr. Christian asks how the contact tracing calls have been going and Ms. Sullivan has had some people concerned about their privacy when she reaches out to them, however, most are cooperative.

Meeting adjourned 5:10PM