

## **LONGMEADOW BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

### **EMERGENCY BOH MEETING**

**Monday, April 13, 2020, 7:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Dr. Robert Rappaport, Chair, and BOH members present were Dr. Robert Baevsky, Dr. Barry Izenstein, Dr. Richard Steingart and Maripat Toye, MS, RN. Beverly Hirschhorn, CHO, was also in attendance.

This was an emergency meeting of the Longmeadow Board of Health (BOH) via Teleconference in response to the current global COVID 19 Health Crisis. The BOH called this meeting in regards to establishing further emergency orders for Longmeadow in follow up to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts declaring the state of emergency due to the Coronavirus 2019 ("COVI-19") These are guidelines and establish regulations in accordance with the USFDA and CDC recommendations.

After discussion of the current mandates for non-essential business closures it has been evident that there are non-essential business in Longmeadow that are in violation of the Governors emergency orders for these business' to be closed. The BOH will fine non-essential business' in violation of the order. This had been posted on the official Town of Longmeadow COVID-19 Website since the Governor posted this in March and notice of this will be posted again on the Longmeadow Website.

1. The BOH voted approval to take authorization enforcement actions including the imposition of monetary penalties as provided in the Governor's Orders of March 23 and 31, 2020 for businesses that do not comply to the closure of non-essential businesses covered by these orders.

Motion to approve: Dr. R. Rappaport. Second for the motion approval: Dr. R Baevsky. A Yes vote to approve: Dr. B. Izenstein Dr. R. Steingart and M.Toye, MS, RN. A No vote: None.

There is evidence that Food Establishments that are considered essential are not all in compliance with the guidance document issued by the Mass. Dept. of Public Health (examples include separate time for Seniors to shop and decrease total store capacity) clarifying the conduct of "grocery" businesses per the Governor's orders of March 23 and 31, 2020.

2. The BOH voted approval for authorization to take enforcement actions including the imposition of monetary penalties in regard to food establishments that do not comply with the guidance document issues by the Mass. Dept. of Public Health clarifying the conduct of "grocery" businesses per the Governor's orders of March 23 and 31, 2020. Motion to approve: Dr. R. Baevsky. Second for the motion approval: M. Toye, MS, RN. A Yes vote to approve: Dr. B. Izenstein, Dr. R. Rappaport and Dr. R. Steingart. A No vote: None.

The BOH reviewed the Governor's Essential Services Orders of March 23 and 30, 2020 that include closing of public parks, tennis and basketball courts, playscapes and other recreational areas in town.

The Town Select Board are very concerned that the Town needs to take action to assure these public areas in Town are in compliance with the Governors emergency orders.

3. The BOH approved orders to close the Town of Longmeadow-owned playscapes, tennis courts, basketball courts and other recreational areas where it is not possible to keep social distancing and contain common tactile surfaces to be in conformance with Governor's Essential Services Orders of March 23 and 31, 2020. Motion to approve: Dr. B. Izenstein. Second for the motion approval: Dr. R. Rappaport. A Yes vote to approve: Dr. R. Baevsky, Dr. R. Steingart and M. Toye, MS, RN. A No vote: None.

The BOH discussed consideration of local regulation to require all food employees to wear facial coverings during their work. There are 3 municipalities in Eastern Mass. that have a local regulation with this requirement. This is a request of a Longmeadow citizen for consideration by the BOH. After a lengthy decision and in consideration of the Governors orders, the USFDA and the CDC recommended guidelines, the BOH voted to mandate all food service employees wear facial masks or coverings while employed in their food service work. The BOH "strongly recommends" that all citizens wear facial coverings while in any food service store or establishment. The CHO will send a notice to Town business to make them aware of these issues.

4. The BOH voted to mandate that all food employee including food service employees to wear facial coverings during their work. The BOH "strongly recommends" that all persons entering the food service stores wear facial coverings. Motion to approve: Dr. B. Baevsky. Second for the motion approval: Dr. R. Rappaport. A Yes vote to approve: Dr. B. Izenstein, Dr. R. Steingart and M. Toye, MS, RN. A No vote: None.

The Longmeadow BOH will continue to review and update any further emergency orders from the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts establishing any new COVID-19 related emergency orders for the Massachusetts communities.

The teleconference meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. The motion to adjourn: Dr. R. Rappaport. Second for motion: M. Toye, MS, RN. A Yes vote to approve: Dr. R. Baevsky, Dr. B. Izenstein and Dr. R. Steingart. A No vote: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary P. Toye, MS, RN

Longmeadow Board of Health