



BOARD OF HEALTH Emergency Meeting

Town of Nantucket
3 East Chestnut Street
Nantucket, Massachusetts 02554

www.nantucket-ma.gov

Commissioners: Stephen Visco (chair), Malcolm MacNab, MD, PHD (Vice chair), James Cooper, Helene Weld, RN, Rita Higgins, Select Board

Staff: Roberto Santamaria, Artell Crowley, Kathy LaFavre, Anne Barrett, Hank Ross

~~ MINUTES ~~

Thursday, April 2, 2020

*This meeting was held via remote participation using ZOOM and YouTube,
Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Regarding Open Meeting Law*

Called to order at 3:33 p.m. by Mr. Visco

Announcements

Staff: R. Santamaria, Health Director
Attending Members: Stephen Visco, Chair; Malcolm MacNab, Vice chair; James Cooper; Helene Weld; Rita Higgins
Town Counsel: Lauren Goldberg, K&P
Speakers: Select Board Chair Dawn Hill Holdgate, Town Manager Elizabeth Gibson

Agenda adopted by unanimous consent

I. MARCH 30, 2020 SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY ORDER DECLARATION

Discussion

Santamaria – Over the past few days we've seen an increase in requests for construction work.

Gibson – The Select Board meeting discussed the Supplemental Emergency Order regarding construction; we were seeing increases in calls about numerous people at worksites. Based upon the observations of a Police Officer on site, more workers came off the Hyline on Wednesday than on Tuesday. We asked the Hyline to provide numbers for passengers, which was 44 yesterday morning; that was double those who came off on Tuesday morning. The Select Board voted to have the BOH reconsider the last paragraph to the supplement order; the existence is causing us to spend time addressing one-off requests. PLUS and Natural Resources are working to put together a plan wherein construction can meet the State guidelines to allow very specific work that meets the guidelines and can be monitored.

Santamaria – It is incredibly important to maintain shelter in place. We are trying to figure out how to move forward while maintaining public health; the number of COVID-19 cases is increasing. He thinks the amending the supplement should move forward with a modification approved by Town Counsel.

MacNab – He understands the difficulty of the situation. Asked what the timeline might be to allow people to work again.

Santamaria – The timeline is no within the next few weeks; we are still expecting a spike in cases in Massachusetts. It is all dependent on how the virus acts within our community. Recommends removing the paragraph.

Cooper – His worries about the big spike and people coming over on boats and planes. Asked if there is anything to be done on the Hyannis side to limit the number of people coming to the Island.

Santamaria – It's already just essential people; a lot of people are paying attention. One Hyline trip showed only 6 people. There are signs on the Hyannis side.

Weld – Of the 135 tests, we only have 8 positives. The hospital is requesting we continue what we're doing.

MacNab – We should be proud of those numbers but there could be people on the Island we don't know have the virus. We need to be as strict as possible.

Hill Holdgate – This is on the Select Board agenda every week. Asked if the BOH will schedule a weekly meeting as well.

Santamaria – Between the information we get and that we push out, we can make that determination of posting a BOH meeting; we are in the operations center every day.

MacNab – If we pass this, it has to be clear we are doing this for health reasons, not to make life easy for our over-worked staff.

Goldberg – She is in full support of removing the last paragraph and making it clear that if work isn't essential, a person should stay home.

Cooper – If there is an emergency in someone's home such as a water leak, asked how they would proceed to get someone to make repairs.

Santa – If they can reach the Building Commissioner, that's first step; from there it comes to the Health Department. If it's a road opening, we contact the Department of Public Works.

Visco – There are a lot of misconceptions out there; the avenues are open for any work that is a public safety issue.

Action **Motion to revise the Supplemental Emergency Order by deleting the last paragraph and maintaining all else as decided on Monday, March 30, 2020 and adopt the Supplemental Emergency Order as written today.** (made by: Cooper) (seconded)

Voice Vote Carried unanimously: Cooper-aye; Weld-aye; MacNab-aye; Higgins-aye; Visco-aye

II. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES AND CONCERNS

1. Santamaria – Staff recommends against new openings of restaurants due to the number of people required to do the inspections in conjunction with the current enforcement. We'll hold off any inspections for food establishments until the governor's moratorium is lifted. We are working with the Food Pantry, which might need more space.
2. Visco – The April meeting will be pushed off; Regulation 51 regarding Madaket is slated for a public hearing.
MacNab – Suggested tabling that further; the public should be able to speak. Next time we meet, it should be on the agenda for a vote to table it.
Santamaria – We can open the meeting on April 16th at 4 p.m. to make the motion to reopen and vote to table it. Conservation Commission has a meeting on that date at 5 p.m.; the meeting would have to address that one item.
Goldberg – It was continued to a set time and date; it has to be opened at that time and date.

Motion to adjourn 4:01 p.m. (made by: Higgins) (second)

Voice Vote Carried unanimously: MacNab-aye; Higgins-aye; Weld-aye; Cooper-aye; Visco-aye

Submitted by:
Terry L. Norton