



BOARD OF HEALTH 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, Melissa Murphy
Staff: Roberto Santamaria, Artell Crowley, Kathy LaFavre, John Hedden, Anne Barrett, Hank Ross

~~ MINUTES ~~

Thursday, June 18, 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 1:00 p.m. by Mr. Visco

Staff in attendance: R. Santamaria, Health Director; A. Crowley, Assistant Health Director; Rob McNeil, Director DPW

Attending Members: Stephen Visco; Malcolm MacNab, MD, PHD; James Cooper; Melissa Murphy, Select Board (not voting)

Absent Members: Helene Weld, RN

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS – ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

- Andrew Bazos**, MD, CrowdRx™ Game On! – Explained the goals of CrowdRx™. Through this group, he's looking to help the Island as best he can; presented ways his group can help screen, detect, and track COVID-19 at heavily-trafficked areas and for employers. We are led by doctors and want to share what we've learned.
Santamaria – This is a program we could add to our public health toolbox. The problem would be funding.
MacNab – About thermal screening, we will still miss a lot of people. Asked if it is worth that effort. Asked if there is a trial regarding detecting oxygen saturation.
Bazos – 70% of people have no fever; it isn't definitive or conclusive, but thermal screening adds a layer of defense. He read in a journal that the sleeping respiratory rate increases 3 days before onset of symptoms, but there is no way to test that. Mr. Santamaria has his email and he'll be on Island over the weekend; he's available for any questions.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Presented his COVID-19 written report: PCR tested 1,139 with 0 positives, state metrics adapted for Nantucket. COVID Educators will soon be available. We are seeing a lot of visitors without masks downtown; the Educators will be able to supply a mask.
MacNab – Asked about testing Landmark House and Academy Hill.
Murphy – Asked if the definition of high-risk workers will change as we open up more. With the State metrics, asked if Nantucket is monitoring the Cape and State hospitals.
Santamaria – Yes to both. We daily refer to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) dashboard on state-wide readiness.
Cooper – Asked how long Our Island Home will be self-quarantined.
Santamaria – A big portion of keeping the numbers down is the quarantine of visitors. We monitor those states with high COVID numbers. We still recommend Our Island Home stay closed to visitors.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 21 and June 4, 2020

Action **Motion to Approve.** (made by: Cooper) (seconded)
Roll-call Vote Carried 3-0//Cooper, MacNab, and Visco-aye

V. BOH APPLICATIONS REVIEW

1. Fee waiver request: Department of Public Works, 7 Nobadeer Farm Road, field house

Sitting Visco, MacNab, Cooper

Documentation Supporting documents and plans, staff recommendations.

Discussion **Santamaria** – Septic would increase the comfort and use of the fieldhouse. Recommend granting the fee waiver for the Town.

McNeil – The field house is concrete slab, open floor, covered porch, and 3 bathrooms.

Action **Motion to Grant the fee waiver.** (made by: Cooper) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 3-0//Cooper, MacNab, and Visco-aye

2. Loan Name Change: Gallagher to Nantucket Shell, LLC

Sitting Visco, MacNab, Cooper, Weld, Higgins

Documentation Supporting documents and plans, staff recommendations.

Discussion **Santamaria** – The loan is recorded on the property, which is moving into an LLC. Need a formal vote to accept the name change.

Action **Motion to Approve the change as requested.** (made by: Cooper) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 3-0//Cooper, MacNab, and Visco-aye

3. Variance request: Farmer's Market, allowance of non-food vendors

Sitting Visco, MacNab, Cooper, Weld, Higgins

Documentation Supporting documents and plans, staff recommendations.

Discussion **Santamaria** – They have always had food vendors; this year the State COVID Phase II will allow non-food vendors with approval from the local BOH.

Action **Motion to Grant the Variance as requested.** (made by: MacNab) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 3-0//Cooper, MacNab, and Visco-aye

4. Variance request: Taproom, food code (no specific sections listed)

WITHDRAWN

VI. BOH UPDATES AND CONCERNS

1. **McNeil** – Invited the Board members to reach out to him to schedule a tour of the landfill.

2. **MacNab** – Thinks it's great we have the lowest COVID numbers in the State; however, we have the highest Tick-Borne disease numbers. He's willing to draft a letter to the editor to remind the public to protect against and look for ticks after walks.

Santamaria – A letter to the editor would be good; he'll do a pamphlet push to the Airport, Steamship Authority, and Hyline offices. Due to the mild winter, the ticks will be more active this summer.

3. **Santamaria** – Meredith Lepore was appointed to replace Helen Weld. Thanked Ms. Weld for her time on the Board. Next meeting is July 16th at 4 p.m.; that will include the Regulation 51 public hearing.

4. **Murphy** – Asked about CrowdRx™ since it was their first presentation. She worries about the timing; starting in the next week or two, the population will increase with people coming here from high-impact areas.

Santamaria – They are currently doing the PRC testing on Island. We have to decide what sort of program we would be looking at; however, getting Town Funding for screening will be very difficult.

MacNab – He thinks their screening program would be great for a private organization but not the Town since so many infected people could be missed.

VII. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS USED

1. Draft BOH Minutes
2. CrowdRx™ Game On! PowerPoint presentation.
3. Health Department written COVID-19 report
4. Mass DPH Dashboard of Public Health Indicators

VIII. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn at 1:57 p.m. (made by: Cooper) (seconded)

Carried unanimously//Cooper, MacNab, and Visco-aye

Submitted by:

Terry L. Norton