

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
REMOTE VIRTUAL MINUTES
February 9 at 6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, s.18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Pembroke Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Pembroke website, at <https://www.pembroke-ma.gov/home/news/governors-order-suspendingcertain-provisions-open-meeting-law>.

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Pembroke website an audio or video recording, transcript or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

REMOTELY PRESENT: Thomas Driscoll (Chair), Matthew Newman (Secretary), Adam Gedutis (Member), Lisa Cullity (Health Agent), and Sheila Landy (BoH Secretary).

Chair Driscoll opened the meeting at 6:00pm and read the statement regarding COVID-19 and meeting procedures.

BOARD ACTION ITEM

Vote to Approve Minutes of December 15, 2020 – The Chair stated he wanted to do the minutes first and asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Clerk Newman made a motion to accept the December 15, 2020 minutes as written. Gedutis seconded and all were in favor (3-0).

Discuss COVID-19 Vaccine – Cullity stated the vaccine roll out is going exceedingly slow. The state has only been getting around 100,00 doses per week and they will be focusing on their mega vax sites (Gillette, Fenway, and Springfield). The reason given by the state for this is reporting. The mega sites record the shots given quicker. The other, smaller sites are a bit slower in reporting. The number of vaccines the state gets from the federal government depends on the number of vaccines administered the week before. Some of it can be due to the second shots for the first responders which do not get counted until next week. The Chair asked if the state has number for how many people were vaccinated. Cullity said she has not seen any of that data yet. Newman asked about local clinics and why we cannot have them. Cullity stated Pembroke and other local municipalities apply for vaccines every week. The Governor is focusing on the Mega sites. Marshfield is getting vaccines because they are open to residents state-wide. Newman asked why some CVS Pharmacies are vaccination sites but not Pembroke. The Agent stated CVS is a private corporation and has entered a contract with the State. The corporation decides which store will have the vaccine and which will not. This is the same for the Big Y and Stop and Shop companies. The Agent stated she is not in agreement with the state's plan to focus on max vaccination sites (there are not enough of them around the state to provide equity of service).

The Chair asked about the vaccination clinic held at the Council on Aging yesterday. The Agent state that was a private (not a municipality) clinic. The CoA contracted with Brewster Ambulance to administer 100 vaccines to our most vulnerable seniors. The Chair thanked Gretchen Emmetts and the Council on Aging for arranging the clinic. The Agent finished by saying she is working diligently to get vaccine for the Town and will continue to do so. The Chair asked the Agent to DPH to provide the number of people vaccinated.

HEALTH AGENT REPORT

The Health Agent stated the good news is numbers are trending down. She asked the public to remain vigilant, especially with February vacation coming up. An increase in gatherings and traveling will bring our numbers back up. Rising numbers could jeopardize the return to school. The Chair said while numbers are trending down,

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they are not the number from August. More like what we saw in December. The Agent agreed. While they are coming down, they are not great numbers. They are in the double digits. The Chair asked about returning to school. The Agent stated the school department is talking about it but there are no set plans yet. The Chair asked if anyone had any questions. Newman asked if the numbers were available online. The Agent said they are posted daily on the website.

The Chair asked for motion to adjourn at 6:22. Mr. Newman made a motion to adjourn, Gedutis seconded, and all were in favor (3-0-0).

The Chair signed off at 6:23pm.