

Dover Board of Health COVID-19 Meeting Minutes - April 29, 2021

Held remotely via zoom

Participants: Professor Gerald Clarke, Chairman; Stephen Kruskall, M.D., member; Kay Petersen, M.D., member

1. Meeting called to order 10:08 am
2. There was a discussion of the change in guidance for not requiring masks be worn outdoors when social distancing can be maintained. Masks are still required indoors. Stadium capacity will increase from 12% to 25% on May 10 and singing indoors will be allowed. The new standards are expected to be posted soon.
3. Dr. Petersen reported that Selectman Robert Springett has requested that the Special Town Meeting be held indoors. Town meetings are exempt from capacity limit guidance.
4. The Public Health Volunteers are working on messaging regarding spring/summer gatherings.
5. The Public Health Nurse reported a lot of confusion and frustration with the 3 foot distance rule when in the classroom and the 6 foot distance rule when outside. One does not have to quarantine if close contact within 3 feet; testing is advised, as is watching for symptoms.
6. On a motion by Dr. Petersen, seconded by Professor Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of March 29, 2021.
7. Dover resident Pope Hoffman presented his concerns regarding the extremely limited hours the library is open to the public during the week. It is closed on Saturdays. The Library Director told him that was due to Board of Health requirements. Dr. Kruskall clarified that the Board does not require more restrictions than the state and suggested the resident get in touch with the library trustees. It was noted that the Library Director and/or Library Trustees determine how and when the Library should be open.
8. James Hearsum, Director at Elm Bank, presented protocols following state guidelines for upcoming weddings that take place on site this spring and summer. Two sets of guidance would be followed:
 - Indoor/outdoor events
 - Restaurant food serviceWedding staff would ensure compliance with guidelines. The Board would be notified should there be a positive COVID test.

James also informed the Board of a PreSchool program taking place at Elm Bank.

9. School Committee Member Lynn Collins requested an in-person candidate's night for those running for School Committee at the Middle School on May 3 from 5-6:30 pm. It is to be live streamed, no audience, less than 10 people as part of the program, with state guidelines to be followed. Everyone will be masked. The Board had no objection.
10. The parent of a team captain has inquired about the possibility of a student car wash this year with students wearing masks. Professor Clarke noted that due to the drought, car washes were prohibited. The parent will be contacted.
11. A complaint was made to the Board regarding potential commercial composting in a residential area. The Zoning Enforcement Officer is aware of the situation and will respond.
12. At 12:28 pm it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.