

Dover Board of Health COVID-19 Meeting Minutes - August 26, 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 9:01am
2. Dr. Petersen reported on behalf of the Public Health Nurse that there are 12 cases in Dover, 5 being breakthrough cases. There are no known clusters outside of the same households.
3. Concerns were raised about the possibility that there could be a shortage of BinaxNow testing kits, at-home testing results are not reported into the MAVEN system, and the CTC is hiring again.
4. Dr. Petersen informed the Board that she hasn't yet initiated contact with the Academic Public Health Volunteers. Working with the volunteers had proven to be time consuming and burdensome last year. The Board decided to put the process of recruitment on hold at this time.
5. There was a discussion of implementing a mask mandate in town buildings and town businesses that are open to the public. Dr. Kruskall pointed out that he favored a mandate in line with other towns. He noted that there was a high level of adherence to the mandate previously. He also suggested that board/committee public meetings should not be held in person.
6. Two motions were made:
 - Dr. Kruskall made a motion, seconded by Dr. Petersen, to recommend that all municipal facilities require indoor masking for employees and visitors. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Dr. Kruskall made a motion, seconded by Dr. Petersen, to recommend that all meetings should be held remotely only. The motion passed unanimously.
7. There were no recommendations for changes to capacity limits and distancing at this time. The Board will review the Towns' COVID protocols for any necessary changes.
8. Kate O'Brien will inform the Town Administrator of the Board's recommendations.
9. The Council on Aging Director reviewed upcoming programs with the Board. The Board advised holding events outdoors whenever possible as the seniors were among the first to be vaccinated, may have less protection now, and the safety radius for the Delta variant is still unknown.

10. Dr. Petersen informed the Board that all of the parents from the child care centers in town are reported to have been vaccinated.
11. Professor Clarke made a motion, seconded by Dr. Petersen, to recommend Community Paradigm Solutions as the awardee for Consulting Services. The motion passed unanimously.
12. Professor Clarke stated that he wrote to Kate O'Brien informing her that the Board requests she offer the temporary part-time administrative assistant position to Applicant Kwok.
13. There was a discussion about determining the schedule frequency of COVID meetings going forward.
14. .At 11:50 am it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.