

**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA
BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Monday April 13, 2020
Town Hall – Veteran’s Hall**

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 pm

Quorum Check: Confirmed

Members Present: Linda Cocalis (LC), Chairman
Richard Volpe (RV)

Members Absent: George DeBusk

Others Present:

Ken Lacey (KL) Health Agent
Dr. Louis Fazen (DF) Resident
Jeff Bridges (JB) Town Administrator

6:01 pm – LC read the following into the record: “Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting law, G.L. c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Sturbridge Board of Health will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation can be found on the Town’s website at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen and or watch the meeting either online via the Town’s on demand video broadcast, on cable television on channel 191, or dial into the meeting at 774-304-1455, enter 1428# for the meeting number and 12345 for the access code. (This phone number is only active for the public during public meetings). 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 of the Town’s website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.”

6:02 pm – no minutes to review, passed over minutes

6:05 pm - COVID-19 Updates

KL- Discussed the Health Department messaging: Our office will continue to put out information when we receive updates from the State. We are updating current COVID cases on the Town website on a weekly basis, or sooner if needed. The State is now posting total case counts by town every Wednesday evening. Discussed Governor's Orders, public education of said orders by Tricia and Ken, and apparent compliance by grocery stores.

Also discussed public outreach of KL through the Senior Center and helping Leslie Wong in her work at the Senior Center.

Dr. Fazen attended tonight's meeting to hear the BOH update on COVID19 and to offer suggestions. He suggested looking at the new CDC guidelines for quarantine. KL informed DF of new MAVEN and MDPH protocols with regards to isolation and quarantine. DF applauded our efforts with new nurse staff, case tracing, and general preparedness for this event.

6:18 pm

KL- discussed public outreach. We postponed the Servsafe class until we are open to the public in the Town Hall. LC- asked for an update of the restaurant list of open and closed vendors. KL agreed to have the office staff work on that list and update the Town Website as needed.

6:22 pm

Grease trap pumping relief request from Brad Arcoite, the General Manager for Table 3 Restaurant Group. The request and discussion hinged around the fact that the restaurants just pumped the grease traps right before the 'Stay at home Order', which in effect reduced the meals and person traffic in the restaurants significantly.

LC asked KL to research this further so the Board could rule on a broader variance for possibly a majority of the restaurants in town with similar issues. KL agreed to research this and get a list back to the Board for the next meeting.

6:27 pm

Authorization to carry over unused vacation time. Both Ken Lacey, Jr and John Booth request to carry over unused vacation time into the next fiscal year.

LC- motion to grant the request to carry over unused vacation time due to the COVID19 health crisis. RV- second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV aye

6:30 pm

Percolation testing discussion. KL asked the Board to officially vote and extend the STAY of percolation testing to May 18th to mirror the Governor's Order on nonessential workers. RV made a motion to extend the cease of percolation testing through May 18th. LC seconded the motion. Roll call vote: LC- aye; RV- aye

Open Forum:

6:34 pm

KL presented a question from David Vadenais regarding a grease trap installation/variance for 484 Main Street. There was a brief discussion about this inquiry and an informal consensus from the Board that they were not inclined to grant a variance for the grease trap requirement. KL will inform Mr. Vadenais of the discussion and feeling of the Board.

Next Meeting: May 11, 2020

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 6:38 pm by RV, 2nd: LC, roll call vote RV – aye; LC - aye, AIF