



CITY OF HALLOWELL

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Hallowell Board of Health Meeting Minutes May 12, 2020 5:00 – 5:30 PM

This Board of Health is an official City entity, formed under Maine state statute **Title 22 Section 453. Local board of health**, which states:

Any municipality may appoint, in addition to the local health officer, a board of health consisting of 3 members besides the local health officer, one of whom shall be a physician if available in the community, and one a woman. When first appointed members of the board shall be appointed one for one year, one for 2 years and one for 3 years. Subsequent appointments shall be for 3-year terms.

The local health officer shall be secretary ex officio of said board and keep a record of all proceedings. The local board of health shall constitute an advisory body to the local health officer.

Officials in Attendance: Drs. Annette Beyea, Scott Schiff-Slater and Sid Sewall; Nate Rudy

Agenda:

Governor's rural reopening plan announced on Friday of last week.

1. Guidance on how retail and restaurant owners can best protect staff and the public.
2. Discussion of the City's phased reopening plans for public buildings and open spaces.
3. Dr. Sewall's Draft Message to the Citizens of Hallowell.
4. Other Business.

Guidance on how retail and restaurant owners can best protect staff and the public:

Discussion about how restaurant and retail businesses have different needs, need different strategies. The "rural reopening" plan seems to be more aggressive than indicated by medical data around coronavirus response and may "backfire" in places. Following the model of Dr. Zink, CMO in Alaska, people respond better to encouragement to wear masks, safe distance, "do the right thing" rather than admonishment. Retail stores should follow safe distance and maximum customer guidance. Discussion about how to accommodate expanded outdoor dining in City owned parking lots, open spaces, and possibility of closing Water Street.

Discussion of the City's phased reopening plans for public buildings and open spaces:

Daily temperature checks seem ineffective due to asymptomatic / pre-symptomatic people spreading virus before showing symptoms. Recommend keeping public visits to City Hall limited, and for staff to use different restrooms than public visitors. Continue remote service as much as possible, avoid enclosed spaces with low airflow.

Dr. Sewall's Draft Message to the Citizens of Hallowell:
BOH members will review prior to next meeting.

Other Business:

None.