

Lincoln Board of Health
Virtual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Members Presents: Frederick Mansfield, MD
Steven Kanner, MD
Patricia Miller

Others Present: Dan Pereira, Director, Park and Rec., Lori Leo, Magic Garden,
Elaine Carroll, Adm. Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on June 24, 2020.

Update from Trish McGean on state of the Town:

Trish said it has been fairly quiet with 37 cases of COVID-19, which is up 1 from last week. There have been 7 probables for antibodies and they do not need to quarantine for 10 days anymore. Rey at The Commons said that testing is mandatory for all staff, and they will be asked to leave, if they will not be tested. They are only accepting people to the SNF unit from those already living in the facility. They are sending staff to Mt. Auburn Hospital and letting some visitation at a distance outside.

Re-opening Plan for Magic Garden:

Lori Leo said there are new minimum regulations for re-opening day care centers. She is changing the floor plans of classrooms for social distancing, getting rid of soft material, with groups of 3 or 4 students. They will be doing cleaning throughout the day along with health screening. There are no parents allowed in the school. Teachers will bring the children to the classroom and bring them back out at the end. The staff will be wearing gloves and masks but not requiring the children to wear masks. She has seen some hats with a sunscreen mask that they could use as a mask. They are planning on opening on July 6 and have to submit their plan to EEC and they will be ready to receive plans sometime next week. EEC is reviewing regulations every few weeks with the State's guidelines. There is a 10 children limit for groups with 2 adults and maybe a third if the budget allows for cleaning. Lori said that 50% of the children are returning in July and August. Patricia said that cleaning is a large project and asked if a cleaning company or teachers would do it? Lori said they would be disinfecting and sanitizing every two hours. Children have their own set of toys which will be cleaned. She has hired a new cleaning company and they do deep cleaning if any confirmed cases of COVID-19. Fred asked if they will fill their quota. Lori said July and August is a smaller amount but some parents will come back in September. Patricia said the pickup and drop off works well and everything looks good and hopefully the weather will be good so you can have the children in the fresh air. We want to be a resource and comfort for you and you can come back to us if you need us. Fred said this was an exhaustive plan and really appreciates all you have done. Peter Twadell of the Birches School said they are working under a different set of rules since they are not a preschool.

Discussion with LLCT and ConCom regarding their participation in EEE Spraying decisions:

Michelle Barnes thanked the Board for getting ahead of this topic with all the pandemic issues. She said EEE spraying could be coming up in September or October and wanted a dialog about how we might assist on what to do as a Town and have an inclusive approach to the spraying. She read a letter from Jim Henderson of LLCT, ConCom and RLF. This letter will be included with the minutes. They are concerned about spraying in the wetlands and buffer zone. Unless there is an urgent need, they would like any EEE spraying in Lincoln in an open discussion so all can participate in a timely manner. Pollinators are harmed by spraying and also consider how close the nearest case of human or animal EEE is to Lincoln.

Fred said the Board would welcome their participation in any decisions. Lincoln is a member of the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project who sets and monitors several traps around Town and analyzes them for West Nile virus and EEE. We have not allowed them to do spraying along the roads because it would not be effective. They would clear the drainage ditches, but we have not dredged them for fear of causing damage. Aerial spraying is recommended by East Middlesex when there is a clear and present danger. We authorized

spraying the perimeter of the playing fields and closing the fields from dusk to dawn. Patricia said a child in Sudbury tested positive for EEE. Sudbury sprayed the L-S campus and towns around us were doing a lot of spraying. It was a rare time. We could provide the residents with information and do a faster job of processing of test traps. We need to educate the community on how to protect themselves. Do more posting on our website, Lincoln Talks and Reverse 911 to alert the Town of any necessary information, and keep LLCT and ConCom informed and included in any discussions. Michelle said to include us in any meetings before any emergency. The Board of Health will get together to see who would like to be the Arbovirus Coordinator and would get information from the State so they could find out what is happening and anything alarming could be brought to the group. Steven asked what the outcome of Bill H-4650. Buzz Constable said it has moved out of Committee but does not know if it has been voted on. It has been substituted by a new number and went to the Senate Ways and Means Committee with favorable amendments and back to the House and Buzz can find out what has happened and get back to the Board. We do not want the government deciding where to spray. We will have a member from the BoH, LLCT and ConCom and come before the Board with any escalating risks.

Discussion on Summer Day Camp and Lincoln Rec. Summer Activities:

Dan Pereira, Director of Park & Rec. with camp counselors, Joe Colombo, Sarah Cosca and Erin Datson, came before the members to discuss the re-opening of summer camp and were looking for guidance from the Board. Dan said there would be activities like arts and crafts with the materials they need assembled on tables with social distancing; soccer shootouts to see how many goals they can score on a counselor; shoot water at the campers, etc. They would use hoops for social distancing. Some things ended up on the cutting room floor, but coming up with enough fun and social time and mental health activities to keep the kids busy. They can decide what activities they want to do. There will be no pool for the campers because it is a public pool. There will be only 40 campers in the morning for 3 hours and 40 campers in the afternoon for 3 hours. There will be no indoor space used unless inclement weather. There will be temperature screening at home but not at camp. There are new State guidelines coming out daily. We put out a poll to get a feel of how people felt and 60% said they were inclined to come back for camp and pool and 40% would not feel comfortable coming back. We would have only Massachusetts residents and no recommendation about whether only Lincoln residents. The Board felt there was a public health reason for only having Lincoln residents. They would want to make sure that Lincoln residents are served.

As far as food is concerned, they would only be there for 3 hours so no need for lunch there but morning and afternoon snacks would be served. This would eliminate the issue of sharing. There will be portable outdoor sinks with hoses. They hired an RN on site and will be in contact with Trish. We will inform parents if things start to go south. The Board said that everything looks good. The next big question is the pool opening. The State guidelines say pools can open on June 25. The Board asked if our next meeting on June 24 puts you back a week. Dan said if the Board could meet earlier than that he would really appreciate that. The members will meet on June 17 at 7:30 p.m. for a single item agenda. Dan will get the information to the Board on the opening of the pool by Monday.

At 9:30 PM, Patricia Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steven Kanner seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Submitted by Elaine Carroll