

**Lincoln Board of Health**  
**Virtual Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

Members Presents: Frederick Mansfield, MD  
Patricia Miller

(Member unavailable: Steven Kanner)

Others Present: Trish McGean, Town Nurse; Elaine Carroll, Adm. Assistant

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on May 12, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

**Update from Trish McGean:**

Trish said Lincoln had a good March with only 5 cases but the first two weeks in April we had 12 cases mostly in the 7 to 8 age group with a cluster in pre-school. We now stand at 179 cases and it is probably due to COVID fatigue and more testing. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine has produced 6 cases of very rare blood clots with one woman dying and one hospitalized. The CDC is not ready to make a call but anyone with problems should see their doctor. We had 4 very successful clinics with 190 doses given out with the remaining 10 given to people at home. We provided the first and second doses before they said we would not get anymore. Patricia said we are trying to set up a regional clinic with 8 other towns to hopefully administer 600 to 650 doses a day. We needed to commit to a large number each day and it has to be a public clinic so anyone can go. The application was filed and they needed additional information and now we are waiting to see if the state will give authorization to move forward. We will have a month from the time we get the approval to when we have to open the doors. The location is the old K-Mark building in Acton. Trish said Acton is taking the lead and will be the vaccine manager storing and saving it. All other towns will provide volunteers as needed.

We should be doing kids this summer and hope we can bring some vaccine to our local towns to take care of our kids. Right now it is out of our hands. They do not have the vaccine to give us but we have made it to the next round. Patricia said doctors are being educated on what to look for if someone shows signs after getting the J & J vaccine and how to treat them. This could produce more fear about getting vaccinated. Fred said the governor did not think there would be much of a dent in the process except in the short term. Patricia said on April 19 the state is opening it up to all residents 16 and older with Pfizer being the only one for 16-18 age group. Pfizer is doing testing on the 12-16 age groups, which is going well and may be seeking emergency authorization for release. It would be good to get the 12 and older approved since this seems to be the problem age group right now. Trish said people have to remember that the vaccine is intended to prevent serious illness, hospitalization and death but you can still catch the virus but have lesser symptoms, and pass it on to someone else. There have been a few cases of people getting it after being vaccinated, which is why we need to still wear a mask.

**Review Letter and Flyer on Mosquito Education:**

The members were asked to review and support a letter and flyer from the Conservation Commission, LLCT and the Agricultural Commission on the education of mosquito control. Fred said he liked the flyer, which was not much different than what the Board has been telling people for years, but if it is mailed to everyone, there is a better chance they will read it. Buzz Constable of LLCT said he wanted to thank the members for their support and is enthusiastic about getting the word out so people will be thinking more about it. He was here to see if the Board wanted to change anything or do something different but will be happy for thumbs up. Louise Bergeron, Chair of the Ag Commission said she thinks this will be important for the farmers. Patricia asked who the designated point person would be for each group to be contacted if a situation like in 2019 when a Sudbury girl contracted EEE so we as a group can get together if there was a decision to be made. Buzz said the lead person for LLCT would be Geoff McGean, Michele Grzenda for ConCom and Louise Bergeron for Ag Comm. and Fred would be the lead person for the Board of Health. Hopefully we will not need to spray again but at least there can be a dialog between these groups prior to that. Louise asked who would answer any questions that may come up on LincolnTalks after the flyer goes out. Buzz said that frequently there is no response needed at all but if there was then it should come from all of us. Patricia felt any response should be in a meeting so there are minutes. If something heated comes up then we could choose to have an emergency Board meeting to come up with a response. Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the brochure and accompanying letter for a Town wide mailing. Fred Mansfield seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye

### **Memorial Day Event at the Pierce House:**

Jessica Downing and David Sequeira of the Park & Recreation Dept. came to discuss the Memorial Day Celebration. Jessica said the event would follow COVID protocol for the proposed events on May 31. This will actually be two events. The first event will be the Medal of Liberty and families have been invited to accept the Medal for fallen war veterans and should last about one hour. The second event is the regular Memorial Day Celebration. Patricia said the state guidelines say a maximum of 150 for outdoor events. Jessica said there would be a limit of 100 for each event. Fred asked what they would be doing about contact tracing and would there be a log of who attended. Jessica said that would make it more difficult to get people to log in with everything going on, but if that is part of the regulations we would have to figure out a way to do it. Patricia said if you have a way to sign people in before the event than you would know how many people are coming and also their contact information. Jessica said the event will also be on video for those who cannot attend. There will be a gap between events so we can control the numbers. Patricia said for these types of events we have always gone by the state guidelines like wearing masks and staying 6 feet apart, which is really the best we can do. She said I hope we start seeing a downward trend in positive testing or the guideline may change. Cancelling it would be based on the state guidelines. Jessica said after the second event there will be food prepared by the police and everything will be individually wrapped. Patricia said that serving food means that masks will need to be removed at least while eating. Jessica said we can decide whether to serve food or not. Patricia made a motion to approve the plan for the Memorial Day Events as presented. Fred Mansfield seconded the motion: Roll Call Vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye. Please keep the Board notified if any changes are made or if the state guidelines change.

### **Pierce House Weddings:**

Victoria Otis said she has weddings booked from May to about the first week in November. The requests for weddings went from 25 to 150 overnight. Now that they can have 150 people, some brides are rescheduling so they can have that many. The tents are being configured to hold 150 people if you roll up the sides. Victoria said you have to have at least 2 side rolled up unless it is a driving rain. The service door side is always open, porch side and main entrances are always open. She said the clients are asking their guests to get tested and then stay low for a week, but this is the honor system and you do not know if they are being honest. Patricia said you need to get a list of the people attending from the bride. During a memorial service there should be a log in sheet with a sign telling them to sign in. Providing contact tracing could be written into the contract for the Pierce House. Victoria said as the host you can say these are the rules and you need to follow them. Dan Pereira said you need to work with the local Board of Health if someone tests positive for contact tracing.

Dan said there is no requirement that these logs be kept so Victoria has put in an addendum to the contracts that says they are agreeing that if you learn of a positive COVID case you will notify us and work with us to do contact tracing and that language is taken from the state. Patricia said she does not think we need a local decree but guidance that we are putting forth our recommendation to have a list of all attendees to allow for contact tracing should there be a COVID outbreak. It is in the state guidelines which Victoria shares with all the renters. What we have in the contract is you must immediately notify the Pierce House and assist with contact tracing. Dan said the first sentence could be that at the onset of your event you are to provide a guest list and update it to the day of the event. Also in case this is not a pre-registered event there should be a sign-in sheet. If you get someone who is being really hostile you should call the police. Victoria said if there is alcohol being served and 100 guests she has a police detail there, but has never used them. Patricia said this looks like a good plan and updating the contract will be great and we will keep monitoring things as we go. Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the Pierce House plans as proposed. Fred Mansfield seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye.

### **Minutes:**

Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting as written. Fred Mansfield seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye

At 8:38 p.m. Fred Mansfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Patricia Miller seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye

*Submitted by Elaine Carroll*

*Approved: May 12, 2021*

