

**Lincoln Board of Health**  
**Virtual Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, May 12, 2021**

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

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

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The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting will be on June 9, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

**Update from Trish McGean:**

Trish said the big news is the CDC Advisory Committee met today and have given the go ahead to immunize children from 12-15 years of age to get the Pfizer vaccine effective immediately. They will be closing the mass vaccination sites at the end of June. We still do not know about our regional collaboration. We thought we were really close but then the Assistant Commissioner said they were still trying to get Devons up and running, which means we are in a holding pattern. A lot of places now have walk-in appointments, which will be a lot easier for people. Let's get the kids done so they will be vaccinated before camp and by the end of school. She guesses the younger ones are going to be approved in late fall. The question is will parents sign their kids up to get it. Some parents may feel this has been rushed, but in fact they have done a lot of really good studies on this. Do you think your 12-15 year old patients would sign up? Steve said if they give the vaccine to pediatricians then they could go through normal channels like always with shots. The risk is for kids in school to bring something home to grandparents whose immunity may not be as good even if they have their shots. As they close the mass sites, the vaccine has to go somewhere and it would make more sense to give it to the pediatricians. The pharmacy assistant in CVS is not more equipped than the nurses and doctors who have dealt with vaccinating children. Steve said he applied last November and December and never got a single shot. We could have done our entire 550 patient roster in three days. Patricia asked if there had been an official announcement for the 12-15 age groups effective immediately and Trish said she got an email tonight from DPH saying Massachusetts can begin immediately to administer the vaccine to individuals 12 and older.

Trish said Lincoln is now at 196 with 4 active cases. We had 32 cases in January, 14 in February, 5 in March, 24 in April which was a crazy month and 9 so far in May. They are still trickling in but definitely seeing a downtick and when there is a case it is usually when I see the address, it is another household member. The commonality is under age 25 and once it gets into the household it spreads like wildfire even when the person is locked in their bedroom. We had an outbreak at the pre-school in Lincoln and had to close it but that is coming around now. The teachers are just counting the days to get through the year and they made it, which is kudos to everyone at the school because it has been a Herculean effort. Patricia said the only things going on are Memorial Day events and we have had discussions about graduations in Town with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders and also Lincoln and Sudbury but have not heard from the high school about graduation plans. The State has changed the numbers for outdoor events to 250 which will be good for the Memorial Day events as well as weddings.

Steve said he is pleased that the 12 to 16 year olds can be vaccinated and the 6 to 12 year olds will probably be able to come along pretty soon. The infant toddler groups are not really a risk to other people since they spend most of their time at home. Patricia said she would get her 14-year old son vaccinated but may be more anxious if she had a 3 or 4 year old and was wondering if the immune system response is different for 16 to 17 year olds than it is for the older children. Steve said the 16 and 17 year olds are like smaller adults but when you get to the younger groups there are a lot of development differences and it should be left to their pediatricians to work out dosing issues. After a question about Lincoln at 40% trailing behind other towns when it comes to being vaccinated, Trish said that was incorrect and said she just sent an e-mail to Tim Higgins from the DPH website about people vaccinated based on a town's population. 1.6 million have been vaccinated in Mass. and so far out of approximately 8,700 residents in Lincoln, 2,900 are fully vaccinated and 3,900 have had their first dose so that is 6,800 out of 8,700 and that is about 78% of the Town has had at least one dose. She also felt the 8,700 total of residents was a little high.

Fred said he has only met one person who was hesitant to get the vaccine but others are glad to get back to going out to eat and travel. Trish said some people are hesitant because they are afraid they will be sick especially if they were sick from the first dose. She reminds them that it only lasts a day or two and then they return to normalcy in their lives. The vaccines are highly effective with no deaths from it. Trish said she has had six cases that have tested positive after being fully vaccinated, which is a little concerning but all along it prevents serious illness and hospitalization. She had a couple who were moderately sick, two who were asymptomatic and a couple with mild symptoms. People were never promised it would be 100% effective from getting the virus. It is like the flu vaccine, you can still get the flu but not as bad. A couple of them were physicians who were fully vaccinated in January and they tested positive and both of them had household members who were positive, one person had been on an airplane and another was a teacher. Trish said she asked how often they were wearing masks but the information she is given might not always be the truth.

**Update on letter and flyer:**

There have been no comments from the residents regarding the Town wide mailing for mosquito control either for or against, but hopefully people read it and it did not just go into the trash. The final flyer looked different than the one seen by the Board, which may have been changed for the Town wide mailing. It has not been put on the website yet.

**Other Business:**

Hazardous Waste: Elaine said she has gotten some good feedback about the online registration for the hazardous waste collection dates.

Swap Table: Trish said the swap table will be opening as soon as they get volunteers to manage it. There will be a restriction as to how many people can be in the area at one time. The Mothers Out Front group was in charge of recruiting the volunteers.

Minutes: Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2021 meeting as amended. Steve Kanner seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Steven Kanner-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye.

At 8:20 p.m. Steven Kanner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Patricia Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Patricia Miller-aye; Steven Kanner-aye; Fred Mansfield-aye.

*Submitted by Elaine Carroll*

*Approved: June 9, 2021*