

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

Meeting Held via Zoom on January 14, 2022 at 9:00am

Members Present: Chris Rogers, Chair; Scott Powell, Member; Chris Slade, Member

Also Present: Kristen Zina, Health and Permitting Assistant

1/14/22 minutes approved via Zoom at the January 25, 2022 meeting

Chris Slade makes motion to open meeting at 9:02am

ACTION/DISCUSSION:

- Bolton Mask Policy for Covid-19
 - S.Powell – Has drafted a sample letter and sign to be displayed if the Board approved the mask mandate. Letter is very similar to what was sent to local businesses in the Fall of 2021 and an expiration of the mandate has been added to the letter and sample sign.
 - C.Slade - Agrees that the date can be adjusted as the Board meets over the next few weeks.
 - C.Slade - Opens to any comments from those who have joined the meeting.
 - Support is given to have the mandate in place given the current surge by those who have joined the call and who have raised their hand to speak.
 - S.Powell- Also reviews the comments in the chat in support of the mandate as well as those who are not in favor of the mandate and adds that this is something that would be reviewed at the BOH meetings over the next few weeks.
 - The Board has been reluctant of a mandate recently because of the high vaccination rate, Board also wants to follow what the State is suggesting for masks and not make a specific policy for Bolton. While enforcement will be a challenge, the Board hopes that it will begin to encourage the behavior of wearing a mask.
 - Both Board members present are in favor of implementing a mask mandate.
 - S.Powell – The letter proposed is trying to keep the mandate simple and not have too many exceptions to it. The expiration date is an important piece to let people know this is not going to be in place indefinitely. It would be more helpful If the State issued something, rather than cities and town having to create their own policies.
 - C.Slade – Answers a question from a resident asking if there are people who have come forward with an opposition to the mandate. C.Slade acknowledges that more people are coming forward in favor of the mandate, but some have stated their opposition.
 - A question is asked how this mandate would be implemented. Should the mandate pass, the Board of Health assistant would work to get the letter and sign published and sent to buildings.
 - C.Slade – One part of the letter that needs to be updated is the part about food prep. The letter is shared and adjustments are made by the Board during the meeting.
- S.Powell makes a motion to approve the mask mandate in the town of Bolton at indoor public spaces beginning on January 17, 2022 at 12:01am and ending on February 28, 2022 at 12:01am. C.Slades 2nd's, motion passes 2/0

S.Powell makes motion to adjourn meeting at 9:37am, C.Slade 2nd, motion passes 2/0

****Agendas are subject to change –
the order and exact times of these items may vary
(except public hearings which cannot begin prior to the time listed)****