

Meeting Minutes of the Chelsea Board of Health  
May 11, 2021

**Attendance: Names of members and Participants**

Board members, City of Chelsea staff and guests were introduced.

Board Members:

- Ola Bayode
- Corinna Culler
- Allen Jackson
- Dr. Dean Xerras

City of Chelsea Staff:

- Dr. Flor Amaya, Director of Public Health
- Paula McHatton, Public Health Nurse
- Richie Zullo, Inspectional Services

**Adoption of the Minutes of the December 8 Board Meeting**

The Board adopted the minutes from the April 2021 meeting by unanimous voice vote.

**Updates – Dr. Flor Amaya, Director of Public Health**

- **New Board Member:** The City Council will meet on 5/17/2021 to decide whether to appoint Joshua Merson to fill the vacant seat on the Board of Health. Dr. Amaya will send his resume to the Board.
- **COVID Vaccinations:**
  - The FEMA vaccination clinics have been extended. They were supposed to end May 30, but the clinics will continue as long as there is a need. The clinic sees about 200 walk-up visitors each weekend. Dr. Amaya is working on outreach and thinking of ways in increase utilization. The clinics operate Friday 3pm – 7pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 10am – 5pm.
  - Mobile vaccination clinics are currently visiting housing developments throughout the City. On May 2, vaccinations occurred at two locations, with 124 people being vaccinated at each site. The van will return to those sites to administer second doses May 22 and 23.
  - The City is also working with Mass General Brigham (MGB) to hold a kickoff event on May 23 from 2pm – 7pm for to administer vaccinations. On May 28, the city and MGB will hold a vaccine event at the mosque across from Highland Park.
  - The City is working with MassCon and PRIA to administer equity doses. Not many people pre-registered. Dr. Amaya will follow up later with the number of people vaccinated through this effort.
  - Several communities, including Chelsea, are seeing increased vaccine supply and decreased demand. Dr. Amaya is thinking of how to do more targeted vaccination clinics to compensate.
  - As of last Friday (May 7) the City had administered 16,412 first doses to people up to age 64. The percentage of residents vaccinated in Chelsea

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Zullo's knowledge of the history of the Inspectional Services Division and Board of Health were helpful in helping the Board understand where its duties in relation to Inspectional Services and other city departments.

Next steps:

- Locate the home rule petition
- Corrina/Richie will meet to go over the relevant documents – the City Charter, home rule petition etc. Zullo also suggested reaching out to the Boston Public Health Commission, Revere and Everett to understand how they operate. They will try to meet over the summer.
- Create a spreadsheet outlining who is responsible for the various activities.

Ola Bayode asked how Inspectional Services keeps track of complaints. Zullo responded that the department maintains a book of complaints, while many housing and food complaints are computerized, and that they are public records.


***Other Items for Discussion:***

Corinna Culler suggested inviting community groups involved in health in to discuss their work and how we may work together in the future. All members supported the idea. Dr. Amaya suggested this work be done in conjunction with the Board building a mission statement and other goal-setting work. Dr. Xerras cautioned the board to not overextend itself, as it does have ongoing and sometimes reactive priorities.

***Next meeting:***

June 8, 5:30pm, virtually.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

  
Allen Jackson, Clerk

6/8/2021  
Date