



**Community COVID-19 Task Force  
Meeting Minutes  
February 24, 2021**

*This meeting was held via Zoom.*

**1. Welcome**

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm

Members present: Robert Whitelaw, Chair  
Rick Barber  
Rebecca Fox  
Charley LaFlamme  
Terry Ann Lunt  
Alice Pearce  
Pamela Sawyer  
Buzzy Roy

Members absent: Kent Bridges

Others present: Lt. Matt Buttrick, Ogunquit Police Department  
Erich Fogg, PA, York Hospital

Rebecca Fox asked for a moment of silence to reflect on the number of deaths from COVID-19.

**2. Minutes**

There were no minutes for review and approval.

**3. CDC Update**

**Charley LaFlamme**

- Today, 17 new deaths reported. These are from the 15<sup>th</sup> of January until now.
- The total deaths in Maine due to COVID-19 is 677.
- Yesterday there were 2 deaths.

- At almost 15% of vaccinations as of today for people that have had one vaccination, and 7% have had 2 vaccinations.
- Cases in the state: 43,900 positive cases.
- Hospitalizations: 1,515 for the entire state.
- The percentage per 10,000 is 328.
- York County has the second highest population to Cumberland County:
  - ▶ 311 hospitalizations in York County since the beginning of COVID-19 with 113 deaths.
  - ▶ In Hancock County: 39 hospitalizations with 32 deaths.
  - ▶ Oxford County: 73%.
  - ▶ Aroostook County: 72%.
- Ogunquit is still listed in the 50-99 case range.
- Cape Neddick has 93 cases.
- The hospitalization rates, 39% of people in York County.
- The chance of dying if you go into the hospital with COVID-19 in York County is 36%.

#### **Erich Fogg, PA, York Hospital**

- At York Hospital the in-patient rate has plummeted dramatically, no COVID patients in house as of today.
- Had one in-patient flu case last week and a couple out-patient cases.
- The State of Maine is reporting a 7-day rolling average of 1.5% positivity rate.
- The York Hospital site is down to less than 3%.
- Drive-through tests performed has lowered so much that are considering reducing the hours, averaging about 87 tests per day.
- These are all encouraging numbers, cases are declining in the state.
- Hospitalized patients are now going home and the far, far majority of them are not even getting hospitalized.
- Not out of the woods by any means, but there is a positive feeling at the hospital with the vaccine roll-out.
- 55% of seventy (70) and older have been vaccinated.
- Gave an update on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

#### **Comments/questions:**

- Pamela Sawyer
- Charley LaFlamme
- Rebecca Fox
- Pamela Sawyer
- Buzzy Roy

#### **4. Vaccine Report**

**Lt. Buttrick**

- Addressed the request for volunteers at the St. Christopher vaccine site; all the information to volunteer has been posted on the COVID-19 website.
- Vaccine Update - last night Walgreen's came online for Maine.
- Walmart will be adding more appointments.
- Continuing to give rides to people for vaccinations.
- Have talked to the State and CDC about the homebound population getting vaccinated.

**5. Review of Recent Citizen Contact**

**Rick Barber**

- There has been no citizen contact.

**6. Old Business**

- Review Select Board Response to the Wastewater Recommendation

This recommendation was approved by the Select Board and sent to the Town Manager. The Town Manager and Phil Pickering, OSD, have met to review the process and how data is to be disseminated.

- Update regarding MPHA meeting, Yarmouth Task Force

Pamela Sawyer and Rebecca Fox have been on some calls regarding contact with other Task Force groups.

Pamela Sawyer reported on the call with Margaret Downing, who is the point person for the Yarmouth Community Task Force. This group is a grass-roots effort and not under the auspices of the Town of Yarmouth but do work with the Town, EMS and Fire. There are over 100 volunteers in this group. Some of the items that have been working on: Neighborhood Communicators, community outreach, swab and send testing services, wastewater testing through Keep Maine Healthy Grant, marketing campaign, creation of a website [www.bewellyarmouth.org](http://www.bewellyarmouth.org).

Rebecca Fox reported that this task force also is focused on reaching out to minority groups in Maine. Rebecca also asked Alice Pearce about seasonal workers/foreign workers for Ogunquit for the upcoming season.

7. **New Business**

**Terry Ann Lunt**

- Rapid Testing kits at school districts.

**Rebecca Fox**

- Asked if at the next meeting if could look at the issues surrounding beach congestion.

8. **Public Comment**

- Marcia Williams
- Neal DeLuca

9. **Call for Motions and Recommendations to the Select Board.**

There were no motions and recommendations to the Select Board.

10. **Adjourn**

Motion made by Buzzy Roy and second by Charley LaFlamme to adjourn the meeting at 5:14pm; approved 8-0, Bridges absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Emery, Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager