



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

This meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom.

1. Welcome

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm.

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

Others present: Erich Fogg, PA, York Hospital
Phil Pickering, Ogunquit Sewer District Superintendent

2. Minutes

Motion made by Pamela Sawyer and second by Robert Whitelaw to accept the minutes of the February 24, 2021 COVID-19 Task Force meeting; unanimously approved.

Motion made by Rick Barber and second by Kent Bridges to accept the minutes of the March 10, 2021 COVID-19 Task Force meeting; unanimously approved.

3. CDC Update

Charley LaFlamme

- Today, 199 new cases and no deaths.
- Yesterday, 137 new cases and two deaths.
- Vaccines are up to 604,981 administered so far in Maine, which is just over 28% of the population with one dose.
- Those with the first dose are at 376,628 which is just under 17%.
- Those with the final does are at 228,353.
- The population in Maine from the last census was 1,344,212, that is where the percentages come from.
- The State has had 48,972 cases thus far during the pandemic which is over a year now.
- Deaths are at 731, hospitalizations are at 1,644 and cases per 10,000 is at 365.9.
- Cumberland County has the highest population and the highest number of cases but not the highest number of people per 10,000, they are at 365.9 per 10,000.
- York County at 500.9 cases per 10,000 is the highest with Androscoggin County next in line with 477.3.
- Walked the Marginal Way last weekend, saw about 20% of people mask-less.

Erich Fogg, PA, York Hospital

- Another thing to look at is the percent positive, York County is at 3.1%.
- At the York Hospital test site it is at 3.5%.
- Doing less testing, last Thursday did 36 which is the lowest since May of last year.
- Because of the drop off in testing have reduced the hours to 8:00am to 1:00pm.
- Today hit 12,000 vaccines administered just by York Hospital.
- Have been a little flat with vaccine distribution this past week, receiving 600 doses the last two weeks, but did receive 900 doses yesterday.
- As get into April, the State of Maine should be receiving more vaccine.
- At the Sanford location, are up to about 700 per day being administered.
- No hospitalizations currently, last week had two COVID patients who were both discharged over the weekend.
- Another two-week cycle with no inpatient flu cases.

- New CEO for York Hospital starts on Monday, April 5th, Dr. Pat Taylor.

Comments/questions:

- Charley LaFlamme
- Rick Barber
- Lt. Matt Buttrick
- Rebecca Fox
- Alice Pearce
- Eric Brass (?)
- Chair Whitelaw
- Bobby Franklin

4. Vaccine Report

Lt. Buttrick

- The Sanford site has ramped up their vaccinations, doing about 90 per hour. They are open six days a week. Their goal is 120 per hour.
- The State of Maine is currently working with Visiting Nurses, EMS providers and other groups to vaccinate home-bound persons or those with anxiety of being in public places.
- Comments regarding people who live in New Hampshire but teach in Maine schools and their request to get vaccinated.

Comments/questions:

- Charley LaFlamme
- Terry Ann Lunt
- Pamela Sawyer

5. Review of Recent Citizen Contact

Rick Barber

- Received comments of concern regarding people walking the Marginal Way without masks.
- Commented on a neighbor's comments about not wearing a mask...this is a concern.

6. **Old Business**

Phil Pickering, Superintendent, Ogunquit Sewer District

- Wastewater Study Results
 - ▶ Comments regarding testing and spikes in biomarkers.
 - ▶ Couple of hits in the last two weeks.
 - ▶ Comments on how vaccines affect testing.
 - ▶ Testing only on Sundays, which would pick up tourists coming in on weekends and businesses that are only open on weekends.
 - ▶ Getting some good solid testing.
 - ▶ Now will wait to see how the holidays and school vacations affect the testing.

Comments/questions:

- Charley LaFlamme
- Pamela Sawyer
- Rebecca Fox
- Kent Bridges
- Chair Whitelaw
- Kirsten Ross

7. **New Business**

Vice Chair Message

- Vice Chair Sawyer reviewed the last year with COVID.
- Pam Sawyer took a moment to recognize to Bob Whitelaw as this is his last meeting since he ran unopposed for the open Select Board position.
- Lt. Buttrick as recognized Chair Whitelaw for his leadership on the Task Force.

Commented on whether or not the Select Board will reappoint someone to the Task Force to replace the vacancy left by Chair Whitelaw.

8. **Public Comment**

Comments/questions:

- Peter Kaufman
- Michael Sgambati

- Alice Pearce
- Rebecca Fox
- Chair Whitelaw

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

Discussion was held regarding the Cliff House and how it affects the Sewer District test results.

Comments/questions:

- Charley LaFlamme
- Rick Barber
- Pamela Sawyer
- Alice Pearce
- Rebecca Fox
- Lt. Buttrick
- Chair Whitelaw

It was recommended that the path by the Norseman be cleaned up prior to the Piping Plovers arrival on the beach. Lt. Buttrick will address this issue with the Town Manager.

Nomination made by Rebecca Fox to have Vice Chair Pamela Sawyer prepare the agenda for the next meeting (April 7, 2021).

10. **Adjourn**

Motion made by Charley LaFlamme and second by Rick Barber to adjourn the meeting at 5:51pm; unanimous vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Emery, Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager