

Leanne Jasset, Chair
Mary Ellard, Vice Chair
Noreen Guilfoyle, Member

Kylee Sullivan, Director
Mavis Stephany Lopez Silva,
Administrative Assistant



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TOWN OF DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2022

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so by using the Zoom link or phone number via computer or mobile device as posted on the meeting agenda that can be found on the Town website calendar. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of Dedham website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The following Board of Health Members were present:

Leanne Jasset, Chair
Mary Ellard, Vice Chair
Noreen Guilfoyle, Member

The following staff were present:

Kylee Sullivan, Health Director
Mavis Stephany Lopez Silva, Administrative Assistant

Chairwoman Jasset called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

Discussion & (Possible) Vote: DESE Mask Mandate

The Board of Health discussed DESE's Mask Mandate expiration announced by DESE Commissioner Riley and Governor Baker on February 9, 2022. Director Sullivan reviewed the DESE update explaining that DESE's current mask requirement will not be renewed after February 28, 2022 due to decreased COVID-19 case numbers and high vaccination rates across the Commonwealth. As a result, effective Monday, February 28, 2022, the DESE mask requirement will be lifted. Madam Chair encouraged the public to maintain open communication with the Board with questions or concerns. The Board reviewed comments they received from the public, both from residents in support of lifting the Mask Mandate, as well as those who would like to keep it in place a bit longer.

Director Sullivan read the updated Face covering Advisory issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health today (February 15, 2022). The Board reported that the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the Schools has decreased. Vice Chair Mary Ellard made a motion to support DESE's decision to lift the Mask Mandate, however, should the data indicate the rise of school-based spread of COVID-19, the Board will revisit this decision. Member Noreen Guilfoyle seconded the motion. The Board unanimously voted to support DESE's decision and will revisit their recommendation as needed based on school-based spread of COVID-19.

The Board kindly encouraged those that can be vaccinated to please do so, and to stay safe and healthy.

Madam Chair entertained motion to adjourn at 5:19 PM. Member Noreen Guilfoyle made a motion to adjourn, and Vice Chairwoman Mary Ellard seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM.

This is to certify that the above is a true and accurate record of the minutes of the Board of Health's Meeting held on February 15, 2022, which minutes were approved on February 22, 2022.

Leanne Jasset – Chairman