



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Health & Human Services
Division of Public Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Matilde Castiel, MD
Health & Human Services
Commissioner

Karyn E. Clark
Public Health
Director

Date: February 17, 2022
To: Board of Health
From: Karyn E. Clark, Director of Public Health
Re: **Board of Health Meeting/WebEx Meeting Minutes February 16, 2022**

Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 6:32 PM

Members Present: Jerry Gurwitz, MD, Vice Chairman, Frances Anthes, Chareese Allen, Van Tran, MD, Gary Rosen

Staff Present: Karyn Clark, Director of Public Health

Dr. Gurwitz explains that the Board of Health is meeting tonight to revisit rescinding the Board's regulation requiring face coverings in indoor private common spaces in the work place and indoor private spaces open to the public. Board member Gary Rosen learned after the last meeting that he had inadvertently failed to take the oath of office which the City Charter requires for an office holder to perform any acts under his or her appointment. Gary Rosen has since taken the oath. Therefore, the Board of Health is meeting again to vote on rescinding the regulation with Gary Rosen having been duly sworn into office. Dr. Gurwitz would like to change the effective date of the rescission to February 17th, 2022.

Dr. Gurwitz motions to have the Worcester Board of Health Emergency Regulation requiring face coverings in all indoor private common spaces in the workplace and indoor private spaces open to the public issued on September 17th, 2021 as revised is rescinded effective 11:59 PM February 17th, 2022.

Gary asks to address the other board members. He apologizes for unintentionally causing the Board of Health to have to meet again due to not being sworn in prior to the last meeting. Gary takes responsibility for not having had followed this rule and vows to do better in the future.

Dr. Gurwitz speaks on behalf of the Board to accept Gary's apology. Dr. Gurwitz asks again if another member of the Board would move the motion.

Gary moves the motion.

Fran seconds the motion.

Dr. Gurwitz asks each member to vote on rescinding the mask mandate.

Chareese votes against rescinding the mask mandate.

Fran votes in favor of rescinding the mask mandate.

Gary votes in favor of rescinding the mask mandate.



Dr. Tran votes against rescinding the mask mandate.
Dr. Gurwitz votes in favor of rescinding the mask mandate.
The motion passes 3 to 2.

Dr. Tran thanks Gary for his statement earlier and thinks that the Board had a good discussion during the last meeting and she respects both sides. Dr. Tran is glad the Board of Health was able to meet again to have an official vote on the recension.
Dr. Tran motions to adjourn the meeting.
Chareese seconds the motion.

Chareese votes in favor to adjourn the meeting.
Fran votes in favor to adjourn the meeting.
Gary votes in favor to adjourn the meeting.
Dr. Tran votes in favor to adjourn the meeting.
Dr. Gurwitz votes in favor to adjourn the meeting.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be Monday, March 7th, 2022 at 6:30 PM via WebEx

Adjourn 6:40 PM