



## OBSERVER REPORT

**BOARD OF HEALTH-** Date - 12/27/21 LWVM Observer – Thomas Krueger  
Members in Attendance via Zoom - BOH : Andrew Petty, Todd Belf-Becker, Sec.  
Andrea Flaxer, Joanne Greer Miller, Helaine Hazlett

Meeting - Emergency

Meeting held in a Handicapped Accessible Location - not applicable

Public allow to Participate in the Meeting - NO via Zoom.

### AGENDA

**In accordance with M.G.L. c. 111, & 31, the Board will vote on the following:**

- **A determination that a public health emergency exists due to the current state of the COVID-19 Pandemic;**
  - **A mandatory indoor mask requirement in all public indoor spaces;**

Dr. Belf-Becker opened the meeting noting the rapid increase in COVID cases which are certainly under reported as many are self-diagnosed with home rapid tests vs. PCRs which are the only ones reported to the HD. At the last BOH meeting (12/14/210) the Board voted a **STRONG RECOMMENDATION** to wear facial covering indoors in public spaces. Ms. Hazlett asked about who was notified of this. The HD only has contact information for retail food establishments. She noted that on her shopping through town there was very inconsistent mask wearing. Additionally, the towns that surround MHD (Swampscott, Salem, Beverly, Peabody) all have indoor mask mandates. Another board member questioned how a masking mandate would “get out” to the public - neither MHTV nor the Marblehead Reporter were represented.

Andrew reiterated that a home test if positive is considered “not confirmed” until a PCR test is done.

The board went on to read the 14 points of an **INDOOR MASKING MANDATE**. The mandate covers all indoor spaces, congregate care, hallways in residential buildings and lodging, etc. This would apply to all individual > 2 yr old unless other special circumstances applied. The mandate included provisions for enforcement - warnings and fines - and this enforcement would be by the police department. (During the reading of the proposed mandate, numerous citizens interrupted, demanding to be heard, even though public comment at this meeting was not to be permitted. Despite

being muted and reminded, they would interrupt again. An opportunity for public comment will be at the next meeting in two days, 12/29/21.) This mandate would go into effect on 12/28/21 at 12:01am. The proposed mandate was passed with an end date on or before 3/8/22 with also the possibility of an extension. A meeting BOH meeting is scheduled for 12/29/21 to confirm the vote.