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TOWN OF KINGSTON

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Town Administrator/ Chief Procurement Officer Thomas J. Calter III

Advisory #42

Friday, April 24, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

Due to a national laboratory reporting issue, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is delayed in reporting their data for Friday, April 24th. Tomorrow's letter will include today's data for Plymouth County. **Earlier today the Town of Kingston was informed of 1 additional confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, bringing the Town's total number of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 to 48.** Of the Town's total number of confirmed positive cases, 28 are from one facility. Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Health Agent Arthur Boyle reported on two votes that were taken at this morning's 11:00 AM Board of Health meeting. The Kingston Board of Health first voted to approve a permit for the Kingston's Farmers Market, a service categorized as essential, to conduct their operation beginning April 25, 2020, at 101 Independence Way. This permit is contingent upon their adherence to the social distancing criteria and the handling of all products in a manner consistent with the Governor's advisories. The second vote pertained to the use of masks or similar face coverings. The Board of Health voted that effective immediately, Kingston's Board of Health is recommending in the interest of public safety, that all persons entering an essential business use a face mask or similar covering, and gloves where appropriate, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This decision also applies to employees of essential businesses. Businesses will be allowed to deny entrance to anyone who is not wearing a face mask or similar covering, but are encouraged to have facemasks and gloves available. Please see the attached announcement provided by the Kingston Board of Health.

During the meeting Director of Elder Affairs Paula Rossi-Clapp shared that since the Council on Aging's second letter was sent to Kingston seniors, 92 additional emergency preparedness forms have been completed by residents. These forms will help to identify residents with specific needs during emergency situations.

The American Red Cross has scheduled an additional blood drive at the Hilltop Athletic Association, located at 65 Pottle St. The first is scheduled for Friday, May 1st from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM, and the second will be held on Friday, May 8th from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Residents who are interested in donating blood are advised to visit https://www.redcrossblood.org/ to sign up for a time to donate.

With confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Kingston, Plymouth County and the Commonwealth still on the rise, Kingston's Board of Health and Emergency Management Team would like to remind you that this is a crucial time for infection control. Maintaining social distancing, limiting exposure to others, avoiding crowded places, and vigilant hand washing are vital steps in slowing the spread of this disease.

Please continue to visit www.kingstonmass.org for daily updates from Kingston's Emergency Management Team, as well as links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) websites.

We are all in this together.

Josh Warren

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman

Board of Selectmen



KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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AT A MEETING OF THE KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH ON APRIL 24, 2020, IT WAS VOTED "THAT IT IS THE SENSE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE TOWN OF KINGSTON THAT IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY THAT ALL PERSONS ENTERING AN ESSENTIAL BUSINESS OR AS CURRENTLY DESIGNATED AS SUCH THAT THEY USE A MASK OR SOMETHING SIMILAR AND GLOVES WHERE APPROPRIATE TO LESSEN THE CHANCE OF SPREADING THE COVID 19 VIRUS OR OTHER AIRBORNE DISEASES. THIS APPLIES TO THE EMPLOYEES OF THE BUSINESS AS WELL.

BUSINESS OWNERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO DENY ENTRANCE TO ANYONE WITH THEIR FACE UNCOVERED

THE MASK OR SIMILAR PRODUCT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. ALTHOUGH, BUSINESSES ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE FACE COVERS AND GLOVES AVAILABLE.

Voted April 24, 2020 by the Kingston Board of Health