

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Thursday, June 11, 2020

The Philadelphia Board of Health held a special public meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2020. The meeting was held virtually using the GoToWebinar platform in light of restrictions related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, allowing access to the public via computer or other device and via a toll-free phone number.

Board Members Present

Dr. Thomas Farley, Dr. Tyra Bryant-Stephens, Dr. Marla Gold, Dr. Jennifer Ibrahim, Dr. Amid Ismail, Dr. Scott McNeal, Dr. John Rich, Dr. Ana Diez Roux

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Health Commissioner and Board President Thomas Farley, MD, MPH called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

SIXTH SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY REGULATION GOVERNING THE CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19 (MANDATORY DATA REPORTING ORDER)

Joshua Roper, PDPH, presented an emergency regulation regarding an order signed by Dr. Farley. Section One of that order requires that existing data reporters (such as labs) to report additional information. The additional information that is to be reported is race, ethnicity, provider name, NPI, and any others as requested in writing. The order also described a timeline for reporting results and required that COVID-19 reports be submitted electronically, as able.

Section Two of the order requires new reporting upon request to facilitate contact tracing and case investigation to control the spread of COVID-19. This section applies to any person or entity to provide information on residents and non-residents of Philadelphia upon request. The data shall include name, sex, date of birth or age, address, phone number. For residents of Philadelphia, the following additional information may be requested: email address, diagnostic codes for underlying conditions or a rating of risk of severe COVID-19, and other elements requested by the Health Commissioner.

Sections Three and Four covers confidentiality provisions and the effective date.

Dr. Farley noted that race and ethnicity data collection will conform to Census categorization.

Motion for approval of regulation approved unanimously.

FIFTH SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY REGULATION GOVERNING THE CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19 (SAFER AT HOME YELLOW PHASE)

Jo Rosenberger Altman from the Law Department presented on an emergency regulation governing the control and prevention of COVID-19 for consideration by the Board.

Section One of this new order, or Safer at Home, allows some businesses that have been closed during the Stay at Home order, so long as they follow PDPH safety guidance. Those businesses that can continue to work remotely should do so. Those businesses that were allowed to operate during the Stay at Home order can continue to do so. Some businesses will not be allowed to operate until a new order is adopted by the Board.

Section Two establishes business safety rules that businesses that are allowed to re-open are required to follow. Section Three differentiates guidance from the Governor, who allows outdoor gatherings up to 25 people, from City guidance, which recommends no gatherings outside of a single household or living unit until the Green Phase. Section Four rescinds the March 22nd, or Stay at Home, order.

Sections Five and Six interpret this regulation as consistent with applicable orders and requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and that it shall go into force when the Governor determines that the City of Philadelphia should move into the Yellow Phase.

Dr. Farley noted that additional orders have been signed since this order was signed, including the addition of outdoor dining within Philadelphia.

Motion for approval of regulation approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Farley adjourned the meeting at 6:34 PM.