

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

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

The Philadelphia Board of Health held a special public meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. 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. Tyra Bryant-Stephens, Dr. Ana Diez-Roux, Dr. Thomas Farley, Dr. Marla Gold, Dr. Jennifer Ibrahim, Dr. Scott McNeal, Dr. John Rich

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Health Commissioner and Board President Thomas Farley, MD, MPH called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

MINUTES

The Board unanimously approved the minutes from January 6, 2021.

CONSOLIDATED AND RESTATED SUPPLEMENTAL EMERGENCY REGULATION GOVERNING THE CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF COVID-19 (CONSOLIDATED SAFER AT HOME RESTRICTIONS AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY)

Jo Rosenberger-Altman, of the Law Department, described that the regulation under consideration at this meeting is an effort to consolidate and restate all of the currently active regulations governing the control and prevention of COVID-19 and outlines those regulations and orders that are not affected by this regulation.

Ms Rosenberger-Altman reviewed several Whereas clauses in the regulation to provide background on the current situation. Ms. Rosenberger-Altman then described the regulation. The regulation adopts the January 15, 2021 Safer At Home Order, which restates, consolidates, and supersedes, the March 26, 2020 Order and a number of the Supplemental Regulations. Four emergency regulations listed in the regulation are not affected by this Order. The regulation then summarizes delegation of authority that the Board has previously approved. This regulation remains in effect until suspended, superseded, or repealed. The January 15, 2021 Order is scheduled to end February 28, 2021, but the Health Commissioner or Board of Health extend or update the regulation.

Ms. Rosenberger-Altman then reviewed the consolidated Order. This order consolidates a number of requirements that have been considered by the Board. Among new or updated requirements in this Order are: in Section 3, a note for gatherings that are both indoor and

outdoor; in Section 5, density requirements were clarified in settings where there was confusion, all education settings are now allowed, indoor exercise and sports list has been expanded with specific requirements and density limits, theater and performance venues can now be opened with density limits and spacing requirements and prohibition of eating and drinking, houses of worship have density limits and spacing requirements; in Section 6, all outdoor sports are now permitted; in Section 7, indoor dining has been permitted to reopen with limits as ordered previously with the exception of only 25% occupancy. The rest of the Order is a compilation of prior Orders.

Dr. Farley asked Ms. Rosenberger when the regulation expires; there is no specific end date, but the January 15, 2021 Order expires on February 28, 2021.

Mr. Roper noted that there are comments in the chat, Dr. Farley reviewed them and found them not relevant to the discussion at hand.

Dr. Gold moved; Dr. Ibrahim seconded.

Motion for approval of regulation approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Farley adjourned the meeting at 7:06 PM.