

Chairperson: Jason Bashura  
 Vice Chairperson: Audra Nixon  
 Executive Secretary: Maura Rossman, M.D., Antigone Vickery  
 Recorded By: Kandyce Hopkins

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
 November 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** November 12, 2020  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Virtual - WebEx

**Members Present:** Jason Bashura, Judith Chernoff, Audra Nixon, Emily Greenberger, Paul Nagy, Erica Martin, Matt Reber  
**Members Excused:** Jill RachBeisel  
**Staff:** Maura Rossman, Health Officer; Antigone Vickery, Deputy Health Officer  
**Public:** Joel Hurewitz  
**Guests:** Erin Purdy, Angela Cabellon

Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Action / Follow up
<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b>	The Special Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Dr. Rossman at 6:05 p.m. All attendees were advised that the meeting was being recorded. There were no objections.	
<b>Introductions</b>	Dr. Rossman introduced herself, all present members of the Board (J. Bashura, A. Nixon, P. Nagy, J. Chernoff, E. Greenberger. (J. RachBeisel did not attend and E. Martin joined the meeting later), Erin Purdy from the Howard County Office of Law, Angela Cabellon form the County Executive’s Office, staff members Antigone Vickery, Toni Eller and Kandyce Hopkins, and acknowledged a public attendee, Joel Hurewitz.	
<b>Administrative Procedure Act Review and Discussion</b>	E. Purdy agreed to attend the meeting to review and clarify the Administrative Procedure Act. E. Purdy gave a general overview of Howard County Code, Title 2 which governs the adoption of rules by county agencies. The Code defines a rule in Section 2.101I, a statement of general applicability and future effects that is authorized by law to be adopted by an agency to implement that law or govern the agency procedure. Prior to adopting a rule, Section 2.105 of the code requires a public hearing to afford interested persons the opportunity to provide written or oral comments on the proposed adoption. At least 30 days prior to the public hearing on the proposed rule, the agency must publish in 2 local newspapers notice of the public hearing, including a statement that the agency intends to adopt the proposed rule. Additionally, at least 30 days prior to the date of the public hearing, the proposed rule must be made available for public review. The proposed rule must also be delivered to the Executive Secretary of the County Council before the close of business on the date of the first publication of the public notice. After the agency adopts the proposed rule, within 30 days of such adoption, the agency has to file with the County Executive and a certified	The Board of Health will establish a committee consisting of Jason, Erica, Paul and Judy to address COVID related initiative and offer recommendations to

copy of the adopted rule is to be sent to the Executive Secretary of the County Council. The adopted rule will then become effective when they are filed with the County Executive unless a later date is required by the law or specified in the rules.

J. Bashura shared slides of information regarding the proposal.

Proposal:

1. Requiring mandatory face mask/shield use by any person in Howard County when: indoors-entering a building where the general public may be present; outdoors-in the presence of non-family members when 6 ft physical separation is not feasible (athletic venues, other gatherings, etc.).
2. Requiring health screening (temperature) and hand sanitizer dispensing stations to be provided when entering a public venue/building where the public may be present. Persons with a fever shall be denied entry to the public place.
3. Requiring the minimum 6 ft physical separation when indoors and outdoors.
4. Requiring gathering limits on indoor and outdoor gathering sizes, and these shall NOT exceed: Indoors- 50% of capacity limit (subject to reduction if community disease spread warrants) Outdoors- Gatherings of unrelated persons larger than 10 ppl, unless adequate physical distancing and facial covering measures are followed. J. Bashura clarified that indoor refers to public places, not private homes.
5. Penalties: Any person who doesn't comply with the Howard County COVID19 mitigation requirements is subject to the following a. Attend a 15-minute virtual education course in COVID 19 prevention; b. Facility licensure suspension / revocation where the violation(s) occurred; c. Financial / monetary penalties

Discussion among members:

- Will retail be included in the proposal?
- Will the board consider alternatives to enacting regulations such as making recommendations to the CE?
- Is there data on enforcement and compliance activities?
- Can public messaging be elevated to include a campaign towards promotion of mask wearing and emphasized the importance of targeting the youth, the 10-18-year-old demographic
- Does the board want to mirror restrictions in other counties i.e. 25% for retail, restaurants, and fitness centers and 11pm closing time?
- Several board members agreed to work together to continue discussion of proposal and to share with BOH at next regularly scheduled meeting

**Next regularly scheduled meeting is November 24.**

the County Executive relative to Executive orders. A work session will be held with the committee prior to the next scheduled Board of Health Meeting.

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