

## Laurel Evans

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**Subject:** FW: public comment for Commissioners' Feb 9 meeting

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**From:** Kim Eike <[kimmer2@chartermi.net](mailto:kimmer2@chartermi.net)>

**Sent:** Sunday, February 7, 2021 2:31:01 PM

**To:** Clerk <[Clerk@leelanau.gov](mailto:Clerk@leelanau.gov)>

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**Subject:** public comment for Commissioners' Feb 9 meeting

I am embarrassed and shocked that you, the Commissioners, are considering a resolution in support strategies similar to the Great Barrington Declaration.

Please read the article from U S NEWS: <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2020-11-06/when-scientists-arrogance-leads-to-recklessness-the-great-barrington-declaration>

Sweden has basically followed this path. Deaths in Sweden are almost TEN times higher, per capita, than neighboring countries. (Per the Johns Hopkins database as of 11 AM on Jan. 29, deaths in Sweden are 1.131 per thousand residents, Norway 0.103 per thousand, Finland 0.119 per thousand.)

Current infection rates in Sweden are over 5 times higher than in neighboring Norway and Finland.

That is a great examples of what NOT to do.

Also what would the effect of the GBD be on the health system? What about the significance to healthcare workers of more people getting sick, more people getting hospitalized? To the increase in the odds that they will become infected? Don't they count? Munson has 29 patients in house with Covid today, only 14% of their ICU beds are empty. Should we triple that number and put the hospital and its staff on overload?

There was a discussion at your recent meeting about the increase in 911 calls with mental health issues. Surely the impact on those involved is significant. I think you must consider the small numbers. I think the ENTERPRISE reported that cases went from 6 to 13. Those are small numbers. How many households are in the county? 7000? (using a guess of 3 members per house, population of roughly 20,000). Seems like small numbers to me. (but of course significant to those 13 households)

If the Board wants to take action, please consider the following:

- Publicize safe measures and work with providers on outreach, not scale back safe measures.
- Ask all of our citizens and visitors to follow guidelines from reputable organizations (wear masks, socially distance, no mass gatherings indoors, don't travel, wash hands a lot.)
- Model ideal behaviors such as wearing masks at meetings. Three of you, according to what I have read, do not do this. That is a terrible example from a leader.
- Increase funding for mental health services.

Please don't make Leelanau County the laughingstock of the country by passing this resolution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kenneth Elke

Suttons Bay

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Kim Eike

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