

Approved May 26, 2020 - A full audio recording of this virtual meeting can be found on the Town's website under Wellfleet Town Media.

**Wellfleet Selectboard with Emergency Management Team Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 10am
Zoom Virtual Meeting**

Selectboard Members Present: Chair Janet Reinhart; Kathleen Bacon; Helen Miranda Wilson; Michael DeVasto; Justina Carlson

Also Present: Town Administrator Dan Hoort; Executive Assistant Courtney Butler; Health Agent Hillary Lemos; Police Chief Michael Hurley; Fire Chief Rich Pauley; Community Services Director Suzanne Thomas

Chair Reinhart called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. This meeting was held via Zoom and the recording is available on the Town website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, OPEN SESSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were no comments

COVID-19 UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

Enforcement

Bacon asked the department heads to give updates on enforcement, starting with the Health Department. Lemos said that the Governor laid out an enforcement procedure. What was most important to her is education, rather than hard, strict enforcement. She reminded the audience that complaints should be submitted to her and the Board of Health and that complaints are addressed in order of severity. Per the Governor's plan, enforcement for non-compliant businesses or individuals is as follows: 1) is a verbal warning; 2) a written letter; 3) a ticket of up to \$300 for up to 3 days; 4) on the 4th day of non-compliance a cease-and-desist letter is issued.

DeVasto clarified that the currently mandated face covering order is for when you cannot maintain a sufficient social distance; Lemos confirmed that. DeVasto asked about people who are on the bike path or walking outdoors; Lemos said if one cannot maintain the 6 feet of distance – such as by pulling off to the side to avoid oncoming traffic – then a mask must be worn. Lemos recommended keeping a mask on your person at all times, just in case, around ones neck.

Carlson asked how many people were in the Health department to work on enforcement; Lemos said 2, herself included. Carlson asked if short-term rentals were to be considered businesses; Lemos said yes since there will be requirements for them and these will be enforced by the Board of Health. Carlson asked if there was a registry of short-term rentals; Lemos said not yet. Reinhart asked if this registry should and could be done; Lemos said the Board of Health has always been interested in having such a list. Reinhart asked if this could happen now; Lemos said not at this moment. Wilson asked if it was legal for the Town to obtain the number of rentals that are registered with the State. She wondered if we could require receipts for cleaning materials and cleaning services to document hygiene protocol compliance; Lemos said yes, there are other communities on the Cape that have short-term rental registries. Wilson asked if a motion was needed from the Board to compile this data; Lemos said that it would need to be a creation of a new Board of Health regulation, for which there needs to be a public hearing. Hoort confirmed that the Town has asked the State for the list of short-term rentals that are registered through them. There was further discussion.

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Bacon asked Grout Thomas what she thought about beach operations this summer; Grout Thomas said the Governor's guidance provides for each Beach Administrator to decide what is best for their areas. She noted that this summer there will be a "mask when you move" enforcement of face coverings, saying that if you are sitting on a towel or chair, you do not need to wear the mask, but should you get up and walk around, a mask should be worn. Grout Thomas said there will also be signs at the beach entrances indicating the process for checking stickers, exit/entrance (one-way) signs to go onto and off of beaches, and further guidelines. Wilson asked about having a seasonal officer/police presence at ocean beach parking lots; Grout Thomas did not feel this was a good use of the already limited police staff. Reinhart asked about beach campfires, Bacon noted that the Governor's guidelines prohibit beach fires this summer.

Bacon asked Chief Pauley about his concerns about enforcement for his department this summer. Chief Pauley said he follows the 80-20 rule with 80% following the rules and the other 20% not. The 20% will be the people who need education and enforcement. He noted that he was not concerned not with restaurants but with beaches. He wants to make sure that social distancing is in place and that people are respectful to each other.

Bacon asked Chief Hurley if his staff carried tasers; Chief Hurley said that yes, all full-time staff carry such equipment. He noted that his goal, and the goal of his department, is to provide education and improve compliance. Chief Hurley said his department has a call-in system for complaints, but since May 6 – when the Governor's order on face coverings went into effect – there have been only 2 complaints about masks. He said that confronting people, no matter how frustrated you are, is not the answer. Chief Hurley noted that the Community Service Officers, mentioned previously by Wilson, are not sworn officers and will be ambassadors in the downtown area, but said there will also be a police presence at the ocean beaches. Carlson asked both Chiefs if they had enough summer staff; Chief Hurley said he was down 2 full-time officers and down 5 summer special officers, and Chief Pauley said he is down 2 full-time and many on-call positions. There was further discussion.

DeVasto asked about lifeguards; Grout Thomas said all lifeguards will be masked when within 6 feet of beachgoers and other guards, and should they need to be close with a patient they will provide the patient a mask. DeVasto was concerned with the safety of guards; Grout Thomas said most guards have evaluated the risk for themselves and have chosen to come back. She also noted there were almost no water rescues last year.

Town Meeting

Hoort said that the Governor's State of Emergency has not been lifted, therefore the legislation passed earlier which allows for Town Meetings to occur after June 30, and for budgets to be expended at 1/12th of the prior year's, still stands. The ATM can still be held after June 30 and the Town can work off of the FY20 budget. Wilson asked staff to consider hosting Town Meeting via a virtual format, such as Zoom, and holding pre-Town Meeting forums this way too; Wilson wanted Town Meeting to occur prior to June 30th. Hoort said that staff is working to look at all possibilities for Town Meeting but noted that the legislature does not currently allow for a virtual or vote-by-mail Meeting, so the only option available right now is for an in-person meeting. Wilson said she hoped the legislature would consider having alternative methods for town meetings at this time, Town Moderator Dan Silverman said the Board was wise to put the meeting off until October and said the legislature may provide further guidance by that time. Wilson added further thoughts about

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being able to have other options for holding town meetings. There was further discussion.

Re-opening plan

Bacon asked about trash receptacles in town; Assistant DPW Director Jay Norton said that all trash bins have been placed out and are in service.

Other Recommendations and Updates

None.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

- Carlson: Governor's Reopening Plan
- Carlson: Short-term rentals

ADJOURNMENT

- Bacon moved to adjourn.
- Wilson seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Butler,
Secretary

Public Records Documents available as of 5/19/2020:

1. Memo from Suzanne Grout Thomas to the Board, re: Beach Fires
2. All documents from the Governor's office that have been shared on the MA state website