2019 Annual Report of the Parking Task Force II Committee

The Parking Task Force II Committee (PTF) is charged with "the study of and recommendations for parking throughout town, including beaches and outlying areas". The Committee members are Dennis O'Connell (Chair), Dale Donovan (Vice Chair), Wayne Clough (Clerk), Joe Aberdale, Dr. Bruce Katcher, Sheila Lyons, Daniel Murray, Ginny Parker, and C. Wilson Sullivan. Janet Reinhart is the Selectboard liaison. We recognize and appreciate the support and guidance provided staff of the Community Services Department, the Police Department, and the Harbormaster's office. The committee met 18 times in 2019. The PTF generally meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Senior Center. Our meetings are posted in advance and most have been videotaped to be available for viewing via the Town Website.

In 2019, we continued our efforts to identify the parking issues inherent in an area with increased usage and shrinking available land. Our goal is to work with Town departments to advise the Selectboard with conclusions and options to make parking better for residents, visitors, and businesses. During 2019, we developed and analyzed three surveys regarding: 1.) the ocean beach parking for taxpayers' observations, 2.) the Marina parking for persons who have contractual relations with the Harbormaster for slips and moorings, and 3.) general town parking from the merchants point of view. This year, we developed procedures to capture additional operational data, especially for ocean beach parking and from drop-offs of beach goers by commercial vehicles. Finally, we continued to benefit from taking testimony from various town officials and members of the public.

The PTF is in the process of finalizing a presentation for the Selectboard which is also planned to be given to the Wellfleet Community Forum. Detailed conclusions and recommendations are being finalized. We concluded that parking issues were generally well managed during the peak summer season of 2019. There were several reasons this was possible. Longer term, we believe that parking will always be a challenge in Wellfleet as 1.) parking spaces are lost to ocean-side erosion, 2.) the Marina parking will experience higher usage rates with the planned dredging and 3.) businesses expand without adequate provision of parking areas. Special events like the Parades, OysterFest, PorchFest, etc. will always require a town effort to accommodate all the parking needs.

We will continue to work with members of the Town staff to create specific recommendations. We appreciate the staff support to date.

Respectfully submitted, The Parking Task Force II

January 15, 2020