



TOWN OF TISBURY

office of

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 666, 66 High Point Lane
Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts 02568

MEETING MINUTES – May 11, 2021 – 4:00 PM

The Tisbury Board of Health (BOH) held a meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 4:00 PM.

Due to ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the meeting was held virtually via Zoom -- Meeting ID: 951 0208 1462; Passcode: 818202

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Malcolm Boyd, Dr. Michael Loberg, Vice-Chairman, and Jeff Pratt, Clerk. Ms. Maura Valley, Health Agent, Catie Blake, Assistant Health Agent, and Valerie Soushek, Administrative Secretary, were also in attendance.

The commissioners approved the meeting minutes for April 13, 2021.

APPOINTMENTS

4:15 PM – Ms. Dream Hampton re: basement powder room and workspace – 71 Davis Street

Ms. Hampton has a (3) bedroom dwelling with a septic capacity for the same in the District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC). She currently has the maximum number of bedrooms allowed. She is before the commissioners with a proposal to finish part of her basement for a business production area with (3) computer workstations. She would also like to add a powder room for use during business hours.

Ms. Hampton confirmed the former laundry area will now include a refrigerator, chest freezer, wine cooler, and wire storage shelves. The existing fireplace will not be used.

The commissioners voted to approve Ms. Hampton's proposal with the elimination of the proposed wall to hide the storage area and the filing of a deed restriction.

4:30 PM – Public Hearing re: revisions to Board of Health fee schedule

Ms. Valley stated that the current schedule was last updated in 2013.

There were no attendees to review and amend the proposed schedule.

The updates proposed by Ms. Valley will align Tisbury with the other Island towns' fees and is in timing with the implementation with opengov.com for permitting and licensing in Tisbury.

The commissioners voted to approve the fee schedule as proposed by Ms. Valley for implementation, effective 7/1/21. A legal notice will be posted in the local newspapers.

HEALTH AGENT REPORT

- COVID-19 updates

Ms. Valley reported that case numbers on the Island are trending downward except for the Town of Edgartown, one of 13 in the State's high-risk category. Mr. Matt Poole, Health Agent for Edgartown, was contacted by Mass DPH, about sending a mobile vaccination unit with six stations to the Island. The unit will be here for five days starting May 15th. Locations will be identified and advertised to the public.

- Local COVID-19 construction and mask zones

Ms. Valley reported that other Island towns will be rescinding their local construction and worksite rules and their mask zones given the recent COVID guidance updates by Governor Baker. The State has workplace safety standards for construction sites now and their mandate states that masks should be worn when people are unable to socially distance themselves. More signs have been ordered for congested areas here on the Island. If there is a summer event, masks will be required.

The commissioners voted to rescind Tisbury's previous COVID-19 prevention emergency orders and formally endorse and enact the orders as recommended by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

- Summer Events, i.e., Tisbury Street Fair, First Fridays, Town Picnic

Ms. Valley stated that the Town Picnic will not be held this year.

The commissioners voted, to recommend to the Selectman, cancellation of the 2021 Tisbury Street Fair, primarily a food fair, due to the inability to control crowds.

There will be no parade for the Memorial Day ceremony; however, Ms. Joann Murphy, organizer, is requesting to hold the cemetery portion of the event. The crowd will be managed according to gathering limits. Social distancing and the wearing of masks will be required. The commissioners voted to approve Ms. Murphy's proposal.

First Fridays – Ms. Valley met with the organizers, who would like to hold the first event on July 2, 2021, for retail events, only. Main Street will be partially closed between the Bowl and Board and Union Street. Tents would be staggered 15 ' apart on either side of the street. This would allow for 25 tents, maximum. Crowds will be limited/managed by roping off the area from general shopping on Main Street sidewalks. Signage requiring masks and social distancing will be displayed. One musician will be playing. There are no plans to have food or concerts at this time; although, these activities may be added with proposed protocols in the future.

The commissioners voted to approve First Fridays as proposed for retail tents and a musician, only. Protocols for adding food booths and concerts will be reviewed and approved in the future.

Ms. Valley is working with management at the Vineyard Haven Library and Council on Aging on reopening protocols.

- Amendment to Nitrogen regulations

The commissioners voted to approve the current draft for use at a public hearing on May 25, 2021.

ASSISTANT HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

General Updates

Ms. Catie Blake reported that fall prevention classes at the Council on Aging will resume on June 1, 2021. The classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday. Ms. Blake will be assisting Ms. Joyce Stiles-Tucker on guidelines for reopening the Council on Aging, i.e., requiring proof of vaccination by attendees.

The first meeting/training for short-term rental inspections was held earlier today. The training included representatives from the health, fire, and building departments. Ms. Blake believed the session was informative, and the protocols are manageable. A rotation of the inspections will be shared by the three departments.

DISPOSAL WORKS APPLICATION(S) (DWAs) FOR BOARD APPROVAL – N/A

NEW BUSINESS

- Rabies Vaccine Exemption request from Lorraine Parrish for Rudy

According to Rudy's veterinarian, Dr. Roger Williams, there is no medical reason to grant an exemption to the Rabies vaccine. As such, the commissioners do not have the authority to approve Ms. Parrish's request and it was denied.

BILLS AND PERMITS FOR APPROVAL

With no further business to conduct, the Board of Health commissioners adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Soushek
Administrative Secretary

Document(s)

The Board of Health commissioners accept the meeting minutes, dated May 11, 2021, as presented.

Date: 13 July 2021 Signed: 