

## **TISBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND BOARD OF HEALTH JOINT MEETING MINUTES**

**Friday, March 13, 2020 at 9:00 AM**

Tisbury Town Hall, Katherine Cornell Theater, 51 Spring Street, Vineyard Haven

Melinda F. Loberg; James Rogers; Jeff Kristal

**Board of Selectmen Members Present:** Melinda Loberg, Jeff Kristal, James Rogers

**Board of Health Members Present:** Malcolm Boyd, Michael Loberg

**Others Present:** John Grande – Town Administrator, Alexandra Kral -Executive Assistant, Maura Valley, Deborah Medders

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**9:05AM Member Loberg opened Board of Selectmen Meeting**

**9:05AM Member Boyd opened Board of Health meeting**

### **DISCUSSION SESSION**

Conoravirus COVID-19

#### Update

Health Agent Maura Valley stated that there are no cases on Martha's Vineyard that the Board of Health is aware of at this moment. Board of Health Agents Island wide have been meeting regularly together with emergency responders to ensure that the best decisions are made to protect public health.

Police, Fire & EMS departments are working in close collaboration, taking all precautions necessary to keep employees and public safe.

Town Administrator stated that all precautions have been made to protect employees and public making sure that all town buildings are adequately stocked with cleaning supplies and protective gear ( gloves, masks) and taking steps to ensure that Town Business can be done remotely, encouraging the public to use online features instead of the in person visit. Certain committees decided not to meet, interactive meeting capability would be required to meet remotely.

Simone DeSorcy, Island Elder Housing - maintenance department working on sanitizing highly-used areas and facilities, residents are at the high-risk, asked Board of Health agent to reach out with more guidance.

Ann Coldwell asked what precautions are the Steamship Authority and MV Airport taking?

Maura Valley stated that both agencies have been involved in the meetings and are communicating with Health Agents on this matter.

Joyce Styles Tucker asked for more guidance from both Boards.

Mary Larsen thanked Boards for the meeting, concerned over the lack of appropriate signage at the Town Hall.

Amy Ryan stated that Chilmark & West Tisbury suspended all public programs in their library. In Vineyard Haven Library all children toys have been removed and cleaned, frequently touched surfaces are getting regularly clean and sanitized.

#### Review of Recommendations and Contingency Plans

Board of Health recommendations:

- Social distancing
- Suspend Public use of meeting spaces through May 1st
- Suspend training and seminars for non-essential personnel through May 1st
- Meet with Council on Aging and Library to discuss programs that might need to continue and precautionary measures

Deborah Medders inquired on what is the reasoning behind May 1<sup>st</sup> date. Should the public be discouraged from attending public meetings?

Town administrator stated that public would need to be able to participate remotely.

Larry Gomez asked what is the plan regarding the 2019 Town Meeting?

Michael Loberg expressed his opinion that the Town Meeting should be postponed.

Town Administrator suggested to limit public access to the Town Hall.

***Member Kristal motioned to allow remote voting for Board of Selectmen members until May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Member Loberg seconded the motion. The motion was approved.***

***Member Kristal motioned to suspend all public meetings and/or gatherings in municipal public spaces until May 1st. Member Loberg seconded the motion. The Motion was approved.***

***Member Kristal motioned to suspend the use of the town off-island vehicle until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Member Loberg seconded the motion. The motion was approved.***

Jon Snyder inquired on how the employees would be treated if asked not to report to work?

Town Administrator stated that he has considered different options and internal communications will be going out regarding the COVID-19 work restrictions.

Deborah Medders asked when the next Board of Selectmen Meeting will be held?  
March 24<sup>th</sup>.


Ms. Medders has also encouraged Board to seek services of the Portuguese translator to make sure that Portuguese speaking population of the island is properly informed.

## MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted by

Alexandra Kral

Melinda F. Loberg  
Chair

DocuSigned by:  
  
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James J. Rogers  
Vice Chair

DocuSigned by:  
  
5548EDDED94145B...

Jeff Kristal  
Clerk