



Town of Swampscott
Select Board and Board of Health Emergency Joint Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 18, 2020 – 6:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Peter Spellios (Chair), Naomi Dreeben (Vice Chair), Polly Titcomb, Don Hause

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS PRESENT

Marianne Hartmann, (Chair), Emily Cilley, Stephanie Goodman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Laura Spathanas

OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator; Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator; Jeff Vaughan, Health Director; Neia Illingworth, Public Health Nurse; Marzie Galazka, Director of Community Development; Max Kasper, Building Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm

RE-OPENING DISCUSSION

Chairman of the Select Board Peter Spellios began the meeting by reviewing Governor Baker's recent report outlining the process for the phased approach to reopening Massachusetts. On May 18, new businesses allowed to open include manufacturing, construction, worship, and hospitals and community health centers. On May 25, other businesses allowed to open include offices, hair salons and barbershops, pet grooming, car washes, curbside pick-up for retailers, etc. Mr. Spellios also reviewed updates to the state's orders on gathering size travel, worship, and social guidance. He reviewed the mandatory self-certification for businesses.

The plan requests that businesses fill out a checklist certifying that they have followed requirements set by the state, but does not provide information about how those requirements have been met. The Work Safety Plan will continue to be requested from Swampscott businesses to better understand what businesses are doing specifically to meet safety requirements set by the state.

Chair of the Board of Health Marianne Hartmann reviewed the Town of Swampscott's proposed Emergency Order #4 which consolidates existing orders #1-3, keeping in effect the following: declaration of emergency until further notice, social distancing, no congregation, temperature checks for employees, ban on reusable bags, facemask requirement, and work safety plan

requirements. The Town is modeling the state's Safer at Home advisory (replacing the Stay at Home order).

There was discussion regarding the "no congregating" item in the Executive Order and questions raised regarding why the Town's order was more prescriptive than the states, which allows congregating up to 10 people. The Board of Health maintained that this was in the best interest of safety and that congregating will continue to contribute to the spread of the virus. It was requested that this be revisited on Wednesday once the board is able to gather more feedback. The order, if voted upon, can still be amended.

Select Board member Polly Titcomb and Director of Economic & Development Director Marzie Galazka reported out from the first Business Advisory Group meeting some questions and concerns. One concern was businesses' abilities to procure PPE necessary to open under state/Town standards. There was a question about whether the Work Safety Plan was redundant and adding more work to businesses. It was determined that the business plan will not prevent anyone from opening and will provide information on how the businesses plan to achieve the requirements of the state. The Town will share some results of the plans with other businesses to help provide suggested guidance on what they can do.

Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald provided an update on Town operations. Town Hall remains closed to the public and decisions to re-open will be made in the coming weeks. The library, Senior Center, and playgrounds remain closed. Parks remain open with no congregation. Beaches remain open with no congregation and the Town is awaiting guidance from the state. Conversations are continuing with the Swampscott Yacht Club regarding the opening. Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald reviewed one-way pedestrian circulation on Kings Beach Walkway and Humphrey St. Decisions regarding summer programs with the Recreation Department, 4th of July parade and fireworks, and the Swampscott Farmer's Market will be made by June 3.

On **MOTION** (Dreeben) and **SECONDED** (Hause) it was **VOTED** by roll call to adopt Emergency Order #4. Roll call: Dreeben (YES) Hause (YES) Titcomb (YES) Spellios (YES)

On **MOTION** by Board of Health (Cilley) and **SECONDED** (Goodman) it was **VOTED** by roll call to adopt Emergency Order #4. Roll call: Cilley (YES) Goodman (YES), Hartmann (YES)

On **MOTION** (Hause) and **SECONDED** (Titcomb) it was **VOTED** by roll call to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: Dreeben (YES) Titcomb (YES) Dreeben (YES) Spellios (YES)

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

True Attest,



Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes APPROVED by vote of the Select Board 5/20/2020