



Town of Swampscott
Select Board and Board of Health Joint Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 27, 2020 – 6:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

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; Ron Mendes, Assistant Town Administrator of Administration and Finance; Gino Cresta, Assistant Town Administrator of Operations

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm

COVID-19 UPDATE

Neia Illingworth provided a brief update on the COVID-19 lab-confirmed cases in Swampscott. To date, there have been 122 cases.

Marianne Hartmann, Chair of the Board of Health commented on issues at Phillips Beach with congregating and no masks. She expressed concern with the response of the individuals when spoken to by the Police. She emphasized that the Town has to continue to ensure that this behavior does not happen – particularly when lifeguards are on the beach. Lifeguards will not be expected to enforce social distancing behavior and should report issues.

The Board discussed potential solutions for addressing underage behavior and how engaging the parents can be useful. They also talked about police enforcement and having Police Chief Madigan join a future meeting to discuss this. Public Health Director Jeff Vaughan spoke to describe his visit to the beach, interactions with beach-goers, and advancing discussions of enforcement.

Fire Chief Graham Archer referenced a patrol plan and increased enforcement at beaches. Chairman Spellios suggested that the Town work with schools to participate in sharing the messaging necessary to keep everyone on the beach.

Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald reviewed the beach rules put in place at the last Select Board Meeting. The boards briefly discussed “carry-in carry-out” policy. Board of Health Member Emily Cilley suggested providing bags to encourage people to bring trash with them. Town Administrator Fitzgerald provided an update on new rules for the Fisherman’s Beach Pier. The pier is open to walking and boaters only and no congregating is allowed.

Town Administrator Fitzgerald requested that the Board address issues that have arisen with handicap parking now that Humphry St. parking has been adapted to accommodate pedestrian access on the beach side.

On Select Board **MOTION** (Dreeben) and **SECONDED** (Hause) it was **VOTED** by roll call to delegate temporary responsibility to Town Administrator to make any parking decisions. Dreeben (YES) Hause (YES) Titcomb (YES) Spathanas (YES) Spellios (YES)

Town Administrator Fitzgerald provided an update on Recreation Programs in Swampscott. The 4th of July festivities have been canceled and Nahant, Marblehead, and Swampscott are discussing potentially holding a joint celebration in the fall. Decisions regarding Recreation Department programs will be subject to Phase 2 state guidelines, which is a moving target.

Director of Public Health Jeff Vaughan gave a presentation on the update on Phased 1 openings of businesses in Swampscott – limited personal services, pet grooming, and car washes. There was a discussion of some strategies that can be employed to ensure a safe opening for Phase 2.

Director of Community & Economic Development Marzie Galazka provided an update on the proposal for parklets. Outreach to businesses has begun. There is a prototype for a planter that will be used to delineate parking areas. The Town is working with Town Counsel to create a simplified application for liquor licenses and the zoning will be voted upon at Town Meeting.

On Board of Health **MOTION** (Cilley) and **SECONDED** (Goodman) it was **VOTED** by roll call to adjourn the Board of Health portion of the meeting. Roll call: Cilley (YES) Goodman (YES) Hartmann (YES)

REACH ARTS LEASE

Select Board Vice Chair Naomi Dreeben gave a brief introduction to the topic of the Reach Arts Lease and walked through some changes to the lease.

Heidi Shear Co-President of Reach Arts provided a brief presentation about what Reach Arts does including drama and art classes, porch fest, gallery events, Halloween Haunted House, Made by 01907 Arts Event, private events, etc. She reviewed some changes and improvements they have made to the building. It was empty for several years prior to Reach Arts moving in and there have been substantial improvements, boilers, plumbing, painting, porches, floor, installed kitchen, repaired fire escape. They plan to make the building ADA compliant, install sprinklers

and an elevator. In response to COVID-19 they have moved a lot of classes online and are awaiting guidance from the state to begin offering appropriate and safe activities.

There will be some changes regarding insurance before the 2nd reading. There will be no vote and will take it up as a second reading. A redlined version will be shared with the board prior to the next reading.

SECOND READING OF TERPENE JOURNEY HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

The Select Board was apprised of two changes to the Terpene Journey Host Community Agreement, to Paragraph 4d and 9c. The Select Board voted on a change to the terms outlined in Paragraph 8c.

On Select Board **MOTION** (Dreeben) and **SECONDED** (Hause) it was **VOTED** (roll call) to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the Host Community Agreement with Terpene Journey with a change in paragraph 8D – 120 to replace 180 days and 180 to replace 240. Dreeben (YES) Titcomb (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES) Spathanas (ABSTAIN)

HARBOR & WATERFRONT PLAN

On **MOTION** (Hause) and **SECONDED** (Dreeben) to it was **VOTED** (by roll call) approve the draft Harbor & Waterfront Plan.

Dreeben encouraged the Town to ensure that all related Town projects are coordinated with this plan. Ms. Galazka ensured that this coordination will occur.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Select Board reviewed three petitions from National Grid, two regarding Burpee Rd. and one regarding Eastman Ave. The Select Board opted to take action on the first two petitions regarding Burpee Rd. and not the petition regarding Eastman Ave. pending an updated plan with a pole relocation.

On **MOTION** (Spathanas) and **SECONDED** (Dreeben) it was **VOTED** (by roll call) to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2020 meeting

On **MOTION** (Dreeben) and **SECONDED** (Spathanas) it was **VOTED** (by roll call) to approve the 2 petitions relative to poles 11 and 13 on Burpee Rd. Roll Call: Spathanas (YES) Hause (YES) Dreeben (YES) Spellios (YES) Titcomb (ABSTAIN)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator Fitzgerald ran-through the Town Administrator's Report

- Memorial Day

- FY21 Budget
- 4th of July Fireworks
- Personnel/staffing
- Swampscott Yacht Club
- Outdoor dining
- Business Advisory Group
- CARES Act
- SEA Contract Ratification

SELECT BOARD TIME

Select Board Member Polly Titcomb has created a community programming series that interviews businesses and individuals during COVID-19. This reflects a unique collaboration between Government Access and Education Access

Select Board Member Titcomb also announced the metal drop-off event on Saturday, May 30.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

True Attest,



Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes APPROVED by vote of the Select Board 6/3/2020