



Town of Oak Bluffs
Board of Health
P.O. Box 1327
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
508-693-3554 Ext. 127

William White
Chairman

James Butterick
Thomas Zinno
Board Members

Meegan Lancaster
Health Agent

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
July 28, 2020 – MINUTES**

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Lorna Welch, Aaron Wilson, Maura McGroarty

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Chris Alley on behalf of Laura Rich – 0 Fitchburg Ave., Map 13 Parcel 22 - Continued
 - To reduce the required distance from the proposed sanitary disposal facility to several neighboring sanitary disposal facilities from 300' down to 25'± (nearest Assessor Parcel 13-21)

Ms. Lancaster suggested continuing the hearing again for this property because we have not received an answer back from Town Council for the question we posed. The Board had a voice vote to continue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- June 30, 2020 - Approved

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- Covid 19 ongoing management plan
- Updates on downtown area – ferry service, outside dining, street closures

Mr. Zinno gave an update on the signage added to the ferry waiting areas, harbor and boardwalk area. He stated he has had good responses while putting up the signs. Mr. Zinno also had a discussion with the Steamship Authority about the new travel order by the Governor requiring out of State travelers to submit forms and how that would work when people are booking reservations. The Steamship is still waiting for the DOT to get back to them on that.

Ms. Lancaster reported that it was a pretty quiet weekend in town and feels that most people were in compliance.

Ms. McGroarty asked about the CSO's that are patrolling the downtown area and what their schedules are. Ms. Lancaster responded that they mostly work Thursday through Sunday but have limited hours of availability. There was further discussion about mask usage and questions about the science behind it. Ms. Lancaster stated that she would send Ms. McGroarty some information regarding this.

Ms. Lancaster expressed concern about the new Governors order (#45) that goes into place on August 1st which entails a mandatory quarantine of fourteen days or a negative test result within 72 hours of travel from specific States. She is seeking clarification from DPH at their meeting this afternoon on what the methodology is for enforcing this. As of now, it has been made clear that DPH is intending to be the enforcement agency for this. There are online forms you can fill out in order to self-certify and supply addresses for follow-up. Local Boards of Health will not have access to this database. She is concerned that there will be a burden in terms of having to outreach to people and explain what is actually going on. Mr. Zinno suggested there be a digital link in the paper online and when booking ferry reservations that provide information about this order. He asked Mr. Wilson if that was something he could talk to the paper about. Mr. Wilson replied that he thought that could be doable and stated that if we provide the information he could send it along to his editors. Ms. Lancaster stated that these items will be addressed at a Health Agents meeting tomorrow morning and with Island Healthcare at a meeting on Thursday.

AGENT / ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

- Edgartown Waste Water Plant

Ms. Lancaster stated that Edgartown is not taking pump-outs from any town for septage including Edgartown unless it is an emergency. Part of the problem is that the permit they have to operate states that they can only take 5% of the total flow in order to be in compliance with their permit and their plant performance. Their sewage flows have been reduced because there were fewer people. This is likely to go on for a while.

- Supposed inspection at East Chop Beach Club

Ms. Lancaster received a call from the president of the Club saying that the BOH had been there to perform an inspection and he wanted to have a discussion about that inspection. She did not go there and perform an inspection so she asked each of the Board members if they went there and no one did. Apparently there is a woman posing as a BOH agent and speaking to their staff about supposed violations.

Mr. Butterick made a motion to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant.