



Town of Swampscott
Select Board and Board of Health Emergency Joint Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 10, 2020 - 6:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Hause

OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator; Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator; Jeff Vaughan, Health Director; Graham Archer, Fire Chief; Ron Madigan, Police Chief; Neia Illingworth, Public Health Nurse

The meeting was called to order at 3:03pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No

COVID-19 UPDATE

The primary objective of the meeting is to issue an order enforcing facemasks in retail establishments and indoor common spaces.

Chairman Spellios provided a general update on the Town's response to COVID-19. The State of Emergency and Stay at Home Order in Swampscott remains in effect as does Swampscott's social distancing protocols. Non-essential businesses remain closed as do public buildings. A new addition to social distancing enforcement is that King's Beach Walkway has been rerouted to accommodate one-way pedestrian traffic.

Health Director Jeff Vaughan spoke on the current number of cases in Swampscott and the crucial importance of continued social distancing. He displayed a chart which demonstrated the growing number of lab-confirmed positive cases – currently at 46. This does not include asymptomatic cases. He provided an update on communication he's had with supermarkets, assisted living facilities, and the housing authority. He spoke about the growing issue of people

discarding used gloves and facemasks in the parking lot after they have worn them, without disposing of them properly.

EMERGENCY ORDER #3

Chair of the Board of Health Marianne Hartmann presented the emergency order regarding face coverings which can be summarized as follows:

1. All member of the public entering retail establishments must wear a face covering.
2. All members of the public entering a restaurant must wear a face covering
3. All employees of essential businesses must wear a face covering when interacting with public or coworker
4. Any resident or member of the public must wear a face covering in common spaces of commercial or residential multi-unit buildings.
5. Retail establishments must limit the number of customers inside.
6. An employee shall be designated to ensure the number of customers is not exceeded.
7. All businesses selling food for humans and pets must take reasonable steps to perform temperature scans of all employees.
8. Anyone disposing of gloves, masks, and other PPE improperly can be fined up to \$5,500.
9. Reusable shopping bags are prohibited
10. Operations of Ice Cream Trucks is prohibited

The order will go into effect on Sunday, April 12 at 12:01AM and will be enforced by Board of Health, Police Dept., and Building Inspector.

Jeff Vaughan provided a few examples of how grocery stores have reformatted their store as needed to maintain social distancing, such as blocking off every other register, ensuring that the deli area is not congested, and one-way aisle traffic. There was a discussion about whether or not we can enforce a certain number of people allowed in the store beyond what the state has ordered (40%) and the answer is no.

There was discussion about item #7 and whether nor it is legal to test employees temperatures. Ms. Hartmann described the process as akin to drug screenings which are a policy put in place by the workplace that employees must submit to. There was also a question about the definition of “reasonable steps”. The reality is that it is difficult to get these types of thermometers. The order is written as such to make sure businesses do their best to put this process in place.

Ms. Hartmann described the process of sanitizing masks. Cloth masks can be washable each day or as needed. She stated that there are volunteers who are currently working on sewing masks and donating them to the Senior Center – prioritizing distribution to volunteers for the Senior Center and seniors.

On Select Board **MOTION** (Spathanas) and **SECONDED** (Titcomb) it was **VOTED** (roll call) to approve the Emergency Order #3 as presented to the Select Board and Board of Health. Roll Call: Dreeben (yes) Spathanas (yes) Titcomb (yes) Spellios (yes)

On Board of Health **MOTION** (Goodman) and **SECONDED** (Cilley) it was **VOTED** (roll call) to approve the Emergency Order #3 as presented to the Select Board and Board of Health. Roll Call: Cilley (yes) Goodman (yes) Hartmann (yes)

The meeting concluded with a presentation on Food Availability and Senior Outreach. To date, 1,300 meals have been delivered/provided to Swampscott residents not including the tremendous number being distributed by the Schools. Calls are currently being made to seniors and volunteer efforts are shifting to masks and finding materials.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:23pm.

True Attest



Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator

Minutes APPROVED by vote of the Select Board 4/22/20