

CHILMARK BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes

April 21, 2021

5pm

Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1oTOwkNS0y1gAge5qHC9IWjCfrM6GVAgw>

Present: Katie Carroll, Matt Poole, Jan Buhrman

Also Present: Warren Doty, Jim malkin, Jonathan Klaren, Cybele McCormick, Jenna Petersiel, Ryan Rossi, Tim Carroll, Reid Silva

Harbor opening plan: Chilmark Harbormaster Ryan Rossi came before the Board to get its recommendation on this summer's use of the harbor. Certain State restrictions have been lifted. He foresaw opening the harbor on Memorial Day, and asked the Board for its recommendations. The Board felt that the precautions put in place last summer regarding double-mooring and rafting on the bulkhead would be prudent for this summer as well, especially in light of current high rates of disease transmission on the island, which has the highest rates in the state. Jan Buhrman stated that the harbor should take full reservations as other Vineyard harbors are over the coming summer.

Chilmark Tavern 2021 season: Jenna Petersiel presented plans for the opening of the Chilmark Tavern in the early part of the season. She stated she intends to start using last year's plan, which was mostly take-out, to-order meals, with a small number of outdoor tables for on-site dining. She acknowledged that it would be good to consider expansion of service later on in the season, but recognized that this is contingent on rates of disease transmission on MV at the time. The Board will reconvene on this question at its first meeting in June.

Menemsha Sunset 2021 season plan: the Board had a preliminary discussion about possible options to be considered at its next meeting, which will be a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen. At issue would be whether last year's precautions, including prohibiting parking in the center of the parking lot, and dispensing with a shuttle bus from the satellite parking area at the Local solid waste Drop Off station, would be advisable this year. Security considerations, involving cars parked on the Basin side of the road, and the wooden boardwalk leading to the bath house, should

also be decided upon. Jonathan Klaren weighed in on the security concerns around pedestrian/vehicle interface, and stated that parking on the basin side has never been permitted, and should henceforth be strictly enforced.

Signage will once again be an important aspect of notifying the public of pandemic precautions, and Jan Buhrman offered to look into signage questions. Another important related precaution which the Board would like to see addressed in light of the current high rates of transmission among working islanders is that, when multiple people are riding together in the company vehicle, it behooves them to wear masks.

Summer Book Festival Plan: The Board held a preliminary discussion with Suellen Lazarus about plans for the Chilmark Book Fair in August. The Board noted that the plan appears reasonable, but that no assurance can be given at this time as to whether or not or how the book fair can be held, due to the very great uncertainty over the level of COVID disease transmission to be expected on MV in August.

Menemsha Deli 2021 season: The Board heard from Cybele McCormick about options for opening the Deli with in-person, in-door service, very limited indoor seating and a self-serve coffee station. She noted that it was a hardship for the business to have an additional service person to make and deliver coffee to the take out window. Jan Buhrman, who had visited the facility prior to the meeting, noted that four individuals could fit with proper 6' distancing.

Chilmark Road Race: the Board felt that discussion of the road race in August was premature, as it is difficult to assess the projected level of disease transmission in relation to vaccination rates on the island so far in advance, and asked Marina Lent to work with race organizers to postpone the date of the road race discussion with the Board.

Spector, 96 Squibnocket Farm Road (37-4): Reid Silva reported that adequate soils were found in the proposed location. The well question between the two properties which are currently under same-ownership remains to be resolved. The currently undeveloped lot, on which the well serving the house is currently located, cannot be under separate ownership until the question of the water supply is adequately resolved. The Board noted that postponing the issue of proper water supply was inadvisable, and conditioned release of the **approved** septic system construction permit on a decision resolving the question of water supply for the properties in question.

Beaches and trash: The Board felt that it was important to move ahead with a "carry-in/carry out" policy for Chilmark beaches since personal and household trash

remains a difficult issue. Jan Buhrman will work with the Beach Committee to address how to make changes for the town.

Next meeting: The Board asked Marina Lent to set up a Joint meeting with Chilmark Selectboard at its next scheduled session on May 5, 2021 to work on preliminary plans for the upcoming 2021 summer season, with a special focus on the Menemsha Basin Road area.