

Minutes

**August 18, 2020,
via zoom
5pm**

Present: Matt Poole, Jan Buhrman, Katie Carroll

Also Present: Deb Hancock, Ebba Hierta, Chris Alley, Reid Silva, Sarah Nixon, Kate Dario, Jim Malkin, Warren Doty

Mandatory Indoor Mask Order: the Board reviewed a mandatory indoor mask order for spaces open to the public in Chilmark, which is modeled on that adopted by the three down-island towns. In light of the current surge in case numbers which is approaching the most intense rates of disease transmission seen during any time during the pandemic, the Board unanimously voted to adopt an indoor mask mandate in Chilmark. The Board noted that owners of spaces open to the public are charged with ensuring compliance with the order.

Selectman Jim Malkin welcomed the order, and indicated his support for additional more stringent measures such as showing proof of vaccination prior to entry to certain crowded public spaces, and masking in outdoor crowds such as those that gather at sunset in Menemsha. He welcomed members of the Board of Health to join the upcoming Selectboard meeting on Tuesday to begin the discussion on vaccine requirements for Chilmark town employees and other mitigating measures. Selectman Warren Doty also welcomed the mask order and summarized the topics for discussion at the upcoming Selectboard meeting: outdoor mask order in crowded spaces, sunset VTA bus bringing people who park at the Town LDO, and a vaccine mandate for Chilmark staff. Library Director Ebba Hierta strongly supported these measures.

138 State Road, (33-16) The Board considered a proposed proposed tie-in into an existing 6-bedroom septic leachfield presented by Reid Silva. The existing septic pit which currently serves a three-bedroom house will be abandoned. One of the three bedrooms will be decommissioned and a detached bedroom will be constructed. No increase in flow is contemplate. Reid Silva drew the Board's attention to a barn/garage that contains an upstairs storage space. The garage is not connected to water, but he wanted to make the Board aware of the space, lest it be considered a bedroom. The Board was satisfied that the garage storage space was not a bedroom, but asked for assurance that the second bedroom will be decommissioned, and approved the plan pending receipt of floor plans for the renovation showing number of bedrooms.

61 Stonewall Road (32-60) The Board reviewed a **proposed septic system for an existing 4-bedroom house with proposed 1 bedroom addition.** The tank/pit system will be abandoned and

the renovation will add a master bedroom to the main floor of the dwelling. The Board approved the proposed plan.

Flender, 6 Tiasquam (12-25) Chris Alley presented a proposed septic system upgrade for the property. The Board asked why the system was built so close to the property line as to require a variance from the 30' required by Chilmark BOH regulations down to 20'.

Chris Alley explained that the system was placed to avoid having to destroy a hand-built stone wall. The Board noted that the property line abuts land belonging to the Tiasquam Association and approved the proposed plan pending receipt of a letter from the Association accepting the reduced separation from the property line.

COVID-19 Update: Marina Lent reported that the current surge in case numbers does not appear to be waning and spans all age groups. It appears to be hitting businesses particularly hard, which makes the indoor mask mandates all the more important. She said that the towns are waiting for confirmation from the state that a grant the six towns and Nantucket have applied for to support contact tracing and infectious disease management has been awarded.

Homeport: Sarah Nixon reported to the Board on progress made in addressing repairs and improvements to the facility in accordance with requirements of a detailed facility inspection undertaken in fall 2019. The plumbing inspector and fire chief have signed off on their respective inspections, and Marina Lent has conducted a pre-operation inspection for operation during the current summer season, which would be largely serving the “back door” and limited private dinners on the patio, with no indoor service.

The Board asked for a detailed written plan for 2021 operations to be provided, and agreed that such a plan could be reviewed and approved by the Board between this meeting and the next.