

CHILMARK BOARD OF HEALTH

Joint Meeting Chilmark SelectBoard & Board of Health

Minutes

January 5 2022

5 pm

via zoom

Present: Katie Carroll, Matt Poole, Jan Buhrman, Reid Silva, Warren Doty, Jim Malkin, Bill Rossi, Michele-Vivian Jamison, Peter Cook, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Klaren

Minutes: The Board approved the Minutes of December 15, 2021 with amendments

Special Joint Meeting of the Chilmark SelectBoard with the Chilmark Board of Health:

Katie Carroll opened the Special Joint Meeting, warmly welcoming the SelectBoard to a joint discussion of the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic on the island and in Chilmark, including plans for distribution of rapid Antigen tests for home use to residents of Chilmark and others in need.

Marina Lent provided a summary of the current state of the pandemic, noting that the unprecedented current surge in case numbers is presumed to be due to the Omicron variant. She described changes in recommended isolation and quarantine procedures put forward by the CDC and Mass DPH, and adjustments to contact tracing at the local level. She also described the role of rapid, at-home testing in relation to PCR testing, and welcomed the availability of large numbers of rapid tests on MV.

Rapid antigen lateral flow tests are currently being provided by HRSA through Island Health Care, in large quantities that can be replenished weekly. Towns are responsible for seeing that the tests are distributed as rapidly as possible to the population, with emphasis on at-risk persons and families to the best of our ability. Chilmark will plan this week's distribution on Wednesday January 12 from 10am to 12pm and Thursday January 13 from 4pm to 6pm. Locations under consideration are the parking lot above the landfill, the Chilmark Community Center, or Town Hall. The Board instructed Marina Lent to work with Chilmark Police Chief Jonathan Klaren to establish a safe and efficient distribution site.

BOH member Matt Poole reported that the off-island vaccination team is coming back to the island and will be here on January 9, 2022. This will enable the second dose of pediatric vaccine to be delivered, and it is hoped that the team will also provide booster doses for adults.

Chilmark Town Hall / Fire Station / EMS (26-99) Reid Silva presented the septic system construction plan for the Chilmark Fire Station/EMS/Town Hall complex. He noted that the use for the TH/Fire Station is not going to require increased capacity, and that the new Fire Station can be tied in to the existing TH septic system. The Board strongly urged that the existing system should be thoroughly evaluated prior to undertaking construction. The Board noted that the septic system on the restricted site for the EMS building will be under the parking lot, and is designed to withstand the load.

The more immediate decision needed, however, is for drinking water wells serving the complex. The Board encouraged provision of a well permit application for a shared well for all three buildings, which could be approved and installed independently of the contract for the new construction. This plan was approved in concept as discussed, and the Board awaits submission of an application.

Howell, 126 Tea Lane (8-26) The Board noted that the well permit application under consideration is for a lot that is currently being created by the Planning Board, but is not yet complete. The Board asked Marina Lent to check with the well driller about the timing of the submission and will postpone consideration of this application barring a compelling reason not to.

86 Menemsha Crossroad (26-35.2) The Board took note of a drinking water test from the well serving the property and, since the test passed potability standards for all parameters, deemed the septic system Title 5 Inspection to have **passed**.

BOH FY'22 BOH hours will be deferred to a special meeting on January 11, 2022

BOH FY'23 Draft Budget discussion will be deferred to a special meeting on January 11, 2022