

Westhampton Board of Health
Minutes to Meeting of
October 8th, 2020

Present: Robby Armenti (RA), David Blakesley (DB), Tom Martin (TM), Mark Bushee (MB), Dale Kasal (DK), Dolores Thornhill (DT), Barbara Cook (BC), no one called in remotely.

Meeting to order @ 1:12 and adjourned 3:09 pm

- 1) DB moves to approve minutes of October 1st, 2020 meeting with RA seconding and the motion passing unanimously.
- 2) DK, DT, and BC before the Board to advocate for opening Town Hall to non-governmental public/recreational activities. Mentioned are social benefits, health indicator benefits associated with movement recreational activities. Board has before it, detailed plans for resuming pickleball activities. TM moves and RA seconds a motion to run a 3-week test period for pickleball players monitored by the BOH and following safety and health procedures drawn up by RA and approved at next meeting. Test period also get upon approval by Select board prior to going forward. Motion passes unanimously. Board notes that this process will have to be gone over for any additional use of Town Hall since Covid protocols are activity specific and must be looked at each in turn.
- 3) TM reports on Halloween activities planned in Town Center. Drive by no touch candy bag pick up and photo opportunity in front of a blowup creature using a household member phone only. So, two no touch stops. Organizers will be masked and gloved, and methodology of collecting can and putting together the bags for the children determined safe. TM spoke with Kris Hamill and is confident that this activity will be handled safely and that the Select board has also approved.
- 4) Board discussed school monitoring over the last week. BD and TM report that Westhampton Elementary School has finalized plans to hold lunches indoor when weather prevents outdoor eating. Grades will be separated, and seating charts will follow classroom set up all for contract tracing protocols. Fan purchased for this indoor activity to increase fresh air are due soon and four small floor fans will be set up until they arrive. Recommendations on HVAC upgrades and filters pending. Board notes Deane Bates forwarded a copy of MOU that is being formulated with teachers and the metrics for closing the school due to Covid are restrictive and may not always reflect the Covid conditions in town. Board notes that they metric restrictions for schools are following one another regionally. Board agrees to split up task monitoring senior events schedules at the Regional. TM reports that there does seems to be more compliance with safety protocols on the buses once HRHS staff began taking pictures of arriving students in place on the bus for contact tracing purposes. Getting buses to increase fresh air continues to be a challenge.
- 5) DB reports that he talked to Steve Holt on the Agricultural Commission about the chemical spray drift complaint on Stage Rd and there are regulations in place that

prevent chemical drift on to another property. Agricultural Commission to take up the matter again after Board of Health sent their request again last week.

- 6) DK notes that she has observed cross country athletes running together in groups without mask. MB notes that Board may need to ban cross county sports at the school if safety protocols are not followed. TM to follow up on this.
- 7) MB notes busy with Title V work and still playing catch up with some part of his job as he finds workdays often revolve around putting out daily fires continually cropping up.
- 8) Board notes the need for another laptop to keep up with its operations during the winter months and plans to move to Zoom meetings so all members can attend when meetings are forced indoors. DB moves to purchase another laptop for Board use and TM seconds and motion passes unanimously.
- 9) TM notes Foothills Health District will be receiving an amended State Grant for 50 thousand dollars that is funneling CARES ACT money into the district to be used by Dec 30th, 2020.
- 10) Board to meet again next week.