



**Community COVID-19 Task Force
Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

This meeting was conducted via Zoom.

1. Welcome

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm.

This meeting is the rescheduled meeting from last week, January 6, 2021.

Members present: Robert Whitelaw, Chair
Rick Barber
Kent Bridges
Rebecca Fox
Charley LaFlamme
Alice Pearce (by phone)
Pamela Sawyer
Buzzy Roy

Members absent: Terry Ann Lunt

Others present: Heath Ouellette, Select Board Chair
Lt. Matt Buttrick, Ogunquit Police Department

2. Minutes

Motion made by Pamela Sawyer and second by Rick Barber to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 Select Board meeting as presented; approved 5-0. Kent Bridges was not present for that meeting.

3. CDC Update

Erich Fogg, PA, York Hospital

- State of Maine is reporting, as of today, a positivity rate of 5.87%. With the PCR test/antigen test statewide they are posting about an 8.5% positivity rate. At the testing site in York, are at 11.2%.
- York County is now the highest in terms of prevalence in the state.

- The calls are now receiving are all about vaccines, everybody wants one.
- The outbreak that occurred at York Hospital (from the last meeting) has officially been closed by the Maine CDC.
- Went through seven rounds of every five days testing all involved. All have come back to work now. There were 46 staff members involved in this outbreak.
- The vaccine has been made available in the State of Maine, the allotment for York Hospital was received the week of Christmas. All staff have been vaccinated.
- As of today, have given 1,200 vaccines at the York Hospital site.
- Starting next week will start giving 2nd shot (booster).
- State is starting to put together its roll-out program.
- Going to hear about public vaccination as early as February; the State is going to leverage all available resources, health care systems, retail systems (Walgreen, CVS, Rite Aid, etc.) as vaccine clinics.

Comments/questions:

- Charley LaFlamme
- Rick Barber
- Buzzy Roy
- Jane Tavares
- Rebecca Fox

4. Field Report

Lt. Buttrick

- Commented on the test site at York Hospital - 11.2 % positivity rate.
- COVID is everywhere around us and becoming more prevalent.
- Locally multiple establishments, restaurants, schools and long-term care facilities have been impacted, as well as hospital systems.
- Concerns have been brought up around the notifications when there is an outbreak.
- Stated that local establishments have done a fantastic job of self-reporting under outbreak criteria.
- The Town reaches out to offer assistance and any kind of counsel that can give to the establishment(s).
- Businesses have been doing a great job of taking this seriously.
- Comments regarding vaccines, exhaustion and fatigue from COVID.

5. Review of Recent Citizen Contact

No citizen contacts.

6. **Old Business**

Review of recent recommendations made to the Select Board.

Select Board Chair Ouellette was in attendance for follow up on the recommendations made to the Select Board from the COVID Task Force.

Beach Access:

The Select Board agreed with the recommendations and have asked the Town Manger to look into them. On Tuesday, January 26th the Select Board is going to have a workshop with the Town Manager. The Town Manager will be reviewing CIP and anticipate an additional ramp on the parking lot side as well as improvements to second entrance. This will be presented to the Select Board and Budget Review Committee.

Comments/questions:

- Chair Whitelaw
- Charley LaFlamme
- Pamela Sawyer
- Kent Bridges
- Buzzy Roy
- Rebecca Fox
- Lt. Buttrick

Discussion was held about signage at the beach and on the Marginal Way. Also discussed was mask compliance.

Chair Whitelaw recommended that Pamela Sawyer, along with two other members of the Task Force, work with the Town Manger regarding citizen compliance of the COVID mandates at the beach and on Marginal Way.

7. **New Business**

Alice Pearce (by phone)

- Discussion about the upcoming season for businesses in the town regarding waivers to allow outside dining and outside sales. Would like to see the waivers in place through the fall. This would pertain to private space only, no public space.

Comments/questions:

- Rick Barber

- Buzzy Roy
- Bob Whitelaw
- Charley LaFlamme

Recommendation made by Charley LaFlamme to add at least one CSO on weekends at the beach to show people that are serious about enforcement.

8. Public Comment

Comments/questions:

- Michael Sgambati
- Kirsten Ross

9. Call for motions and recommendations to the Select Board.

Motion made by Charley LaFlamme to recommend finding funding in the budget so that a CSO can monitor the beach on nice days on weekends and holidays in the off season.

Motion withdrawn by Charley LaFlamme.

Motion made by Alice Pearce and second by Pamela Sawyer to ask the Select Board and the Town Manager to consider extending the Zoning Ordinance waivers that has been in effect for outside dining and outside sales on private property to be extended from its current end date of June 30, 2021 through December 31, 2021; approved 7-1, Roy in opposition.

Chair Whitelaw will put this motion in writing for the Task Force to review prior to making the recommendation to the Select Board.

10. Adjourn

Motion made by Rick Barber and second by Charley LaFlamme to adjourn the meeting at 5:51pm; approved 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Emery, Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager