

WINTHROP BOARD of HEALTH

November 4, 2020 6:30 PM

REMOTE PARTICIPATION (L. Wojcik, Host; Meeting Recorded)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Schmidt called the Board of Health meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

ROLL CALL: BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair: Bill Schmidt; Vice-Chair: Astrid Weins; Member: Susan Maguire.

PRESENT: TOWN of WINTHROP: A. Legee, Commissioner Inspectional Services Department, M. Hurley, Director Public Health; R. Sanford, Inspectional Services Department; Lieutenant Steve Rogers, Winthrop Police Department, S. Sicurella, Inspectional Services Department.

PARTICIPANTS: B. Dalton, Elks; P. Towner, Cottage Park Yacht Club (CPYC); J. Cataldo, Cottage Park Yacht Club (CPYC); S. Watson, Pleasant Park Yacht Club (PPYC); K. Donohue, Pleasant Park Yacht Club (PPYC); C. Previte, Winthrop Golf Club (WGC); B. McCarthy, Winthrop Yacht Club (WYC); M. Balian of Winthrop Yacht Club (WYC); B. Shane, Chamber of Commerce.

PURPOSE of MEETING: Discussion of the recent clusters of COVID-19 cases at clubs in Winthrop.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Schmidt noted email correspondence received by the Board from the following individuals commenting on the work and efforts of CPYC's operation of their restaurant, Westerly.

P. Towner, Commodore of CPYC via B. Shane; R. Magnan, via Councilor Ruggiero; M. Carr; B. Gorman; D. Reilly; E. Hardy; T. Merk via Councilor Ruggiero; S. Hardy; J. Aranov; and P. Aranov.

P. Towner also submitted copies of protocols followed by CPYC along with the restaurant's menu.

B. McCarthy and M. Balian of WYC stated the club's diligence noting they have passed three inspections.

S. Watson of PPYC stated the club is doing everything required of them and looking for guidance.

B. Dalton stated that the Elks has passed inspections twice, undergone deep cleaning, and cut back on their hours of operation. Behind the Board of Health 100%.

K. Donohue, PPYC noted the club remains closed since the cluster was identified.

C. Previte noted that the Winthrop Golf Club has been closed since 10/25/2020 and will be reevaluating when to close for the season.

DISCUSSION: Vice Chair Weins explained her reason for calling this meeting as an opportunity to come together to reiterate the seriousness of the situation and ensure that it doesn't happen again by ensuring that the clubs are following and enforcing the COVID-19 guidelines.

Chair Schmidt asked each club to summarize how they are enforcing the guidelines, and steps they have taken following the outbreaks. Ms. Maguire asked that they note if functions are being held and if bar seating is allowed.

Key points are summarized below:

All clubs stated that they mandate masks/face coverings.

ELKS: B. Dalton: 1500 members were notified after the outbreak. Club remains closed. No functions planned. No bar seating.

Pleasant Park Yacht Club: S. Watson: Since Spring, the club has undergone two deep cleanings. Club remains closed. No functions planned. No bar seating. No direct access from boats.

Winthrop Golf Club: Club has a Brew Room with a bar manager, and restaurant owner on staff. Club has been closed since 10/25/2020. Golf Shop has been closed permanently. All payments made outdoors. Only one charity tournament held early summer. One cancelled.

Winthrop Yacht Club: B. McCarthy: Club has a cleaning contractor. No bar seating, restricted dining hours, and one-way traffic.

Cottage Park Yacht Club: P. Towner: No walk-up service. Restaurant operated by Millie's Kitchen. Suspended reciprocity with other clubs. (Chair Schmidt discourages reciprocity by the other clubs in town). Electrostatic sprayer. Challenges early on were compliance with face masks and distancing.

B. Shane noted that the Licensing Commission met the other evening and will notify businesses that all drinks must be off tables by 9:15 pm to ensure compliance with Governor Baker's Order.

Chair Schmidt noted that Commissioner Legee and Russ Sanford were participating on the call and noted they will be continuing their onsite inspections. M. Hurley will be setting up Enforcement Agent K. Oliva's schedule next week and will coordinate with ISD to avoid duplication.

Lieutenant Rogers noted that the WPD has been out three times with ABCC and found no problems.

Action steps: Clubs were requested to update the Board on the status of their plans to reopen.

ADJOURNMENT: S. Maguire motioned to adjourn at 7:41 pm, seconded by A. Weins, approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Maguire