

GOSNOLD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 1, 2020

In Attendance via ZOOM: Sarah Berry, Stewart Young, Gail Blout, Philip Houha, Slater Anderson, Leyla Day, Rud Mason, Dawn Vogt, David Frothinghams, Paul and Sara Lehner, Susan Merry, Bob and Bee Elmore, Maddie Lynch, Mary Louise Couvillon, Chris Hart, George Isabel, Karl Hinrichs, David Warr, Rosemary Rice-Goettsch, George and Anna Shaw, Jay Merriam, Serena Hall, Charmaine Gahan, Katie Leeson, Leo Roy, Michelle Carvahlo, P. Hulley, Paula DiMare, Jon Winet, Christine Fairchild, Bev Prevost, Louise Garfield, George Huey, Terry Bordenave, Lise Stone, Marla Garfield, Kris Lombard, Anne Conway, Anne Goodrich Twichell, Dale Grayson, Richard Crosswell, Sarah Smith, Lisa Wright, Dan Wiggin, Laura Mali Astrue, Seth Garfield – a total of 54 people were on line.

From Martha's Vineyard Commission ; Chris Seidel and Dan Doyle

Please email Sarah Berry [sbgberry@gmail.com](mailto:sbgberry@gmail.com), if I overlooked your name. For those that dialed in a name was not always available.

Please go to [TownofGosnold.org](http://TownofGosnold.org) and sign up for emails as well if interested.

**REMINDER; ATM - ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DATE IS JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN.**

**Finance Committee:** continued to work on the 2021 budget. It was agreed that the contribution for health insurance by the town will be increased to 75% to be in line with all the Cape and islands. The increase will be on the ATM warrant. Salary increases though intended will not be considered until later in the year when the CV-19 has passed. There was interest in seeing and understanding the school budget, and a request to review the facts of the building operating costs that support Steam. In addition a review of the fees, and other sources of revenue for Solid Waste increased expenses will be reviewed with that department as costs greatly exceed revenue. The payment for the easements from the Park Service is being renegotiated in installments to alleviate some pressure on the 2021 budget until we know what summer revenues will be; early indications offer a workable solution. Part time Town Administrator job interviews will occur late May and early June.

**HARBOR:** The Harbor Committee recommends the closure of public restrooms at the Wharf and that tables not be placed on the docks this summer until CV19 is under control. Wharf and Harbor will open June 15. Leo Roy and George Isabel attended a coastal marine Webinar on how to handle the waterfront activities due to CV19. If changes can be made they will post them. Boaters will need to take their trash off the island with them.

**BOARD OF HEALTH** continues to discuss measures to be taken by the public on the island. Signs will be posted. Everyone should wear a mask at all times when in proximity to others. Hand sanitizer stations are going up shortly. Please comply with transportation requirements as well coming to the island. As matters develop we will be posting signs and sending out advisories and regulations.

**ISLAND BUSINESS CONCERNS;** Jon Winet and others expressed concern about summer businesses and the effect of CV19 on island economy. He suggested we consider a combined request for some financial help. Federal and State and SBA offer various emergency forgivable loans. As other forms of financial relief develop, Federal and State please share what you know. THE BOS is advised by the state of programs that are developing and are in touch with legislators.

**AUDUBON;** Audubon will give us a final agreement soon on the pillboxes but they will give the town time to find funding and create historic sites. A grant writer has been approached to submit to Mass Most Endangered Historic Resource Program.

**COAST GUARD BUILDING;** This building at the ferry dock was funded \$300k for a visitor center. The town will need to match some of the funding, which can also be in kind. A design can now be developed and ideally include restrooms if allowed.

**WATER DEPARTMENT;** Work is proceeding on regrading the slope behind the pump house, after the Order of Conditions was approved by ConCom. Test wells should begin by month end. Two individuals questioned their new water service billings which will be researched and explained.

**FIRST AID;** There is concern over testing and tracing for CV19, and how the clinic might operate this summer. Our health agent will be contacted and a comprehensive approach will be developed. Testing sites should not be at the same site as a clinic in general. Seth and EMTS have acquired PPE suits and masks, and will be stockpiling all appropriate supplies. How we handle visitors will continue to be discussed.

**OPEN SPACE PLAN;** The work has been completed for the grievance and ADA sections and a final document can now be filed. Thanks to the assistance to the Selectmen from Chris Seidel from MVC and Mark Rasmussen from BBC.

**FUEL FARM:** Leo reported that Packer needs to file the NOI with the ConCom to pull the fuel farm. Temporary fueling will be provided for the summer with a longer term solution in the works for marine and residential fuel operations. It is possible a grant can provide resources for relocating this service elsewhere as well as other municipal operations under the

**Municipal Vulnerability Program the town has done planning with as the first stage of acquiring funding for certain projects.**

**In the meantime, stay safe, and let's hope we can have a good summer even if vastly different. Personally I would like to thank everyone for their participation and patience and care for each other during these anxious times and the disruption it brings.**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Sarah Berry 508-320-2400 - [sbgberry@gmail.com](mailto:sbgberry@gmail.com)**

**Gail Blout**

**Stewart Young**

*NEXT MEETINGS ARE May 15, May 29<sup>th</sup>, June 12, June 29*