



Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2020 –3:00 p.m.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

This meeting will be held via video conference, consistent with Gov. Baker's temporary modifications to Open Meeting Law due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board of Selectmen: Chair Charles Sokol, Selectman Joanne Semanie
Absent: Selectman Ed Silva
Administrative Staff: Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary, Paul McLatchy III, Administrative Assistant to the Boards
Other Attendees: Board of Health Chair Margaret Rice, Rowe Camp and Conference Center Director Benjamin Werner
Audience of Citizens: None

Call to Order: Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 4:07 P.M., a quorum of the board present via remote participation.

MOTION: Roll call vote to call to order:

Chair Sokol: **yes**
Silva: **absent**
Vice-Chair Semanie: **yes**

Background: This group of individuals (self-titled “Covid Group”) has been meeting weekly for the past few months to listen to the state Covid-19 briefings and discuss ongoing matters in town related to the pandemic. As Board of Health Clerk Joanne Semanie was elected last Saturday to the Board of Selectmen, there is now a quorum of the board present during these weekly meetings, and as such, must take place in open session.

Covid Discussion: The following points/topics were addressed during discussion:

Board of Health Chair Maggie Rice provided the following updates:

- The Mass travel ban was discussed and it was noted that there have been a few questions asked about it and that Rhode Island had been removed from a state that Mass residents could travel from without being required to follow the quarantine guidelines provided by the State of Massachusetts in Covid order No. 45. It was noted that people registering on the Mass website regarding the travel ban would trigger notification to the town.
- Chair Rice reported that the Mosquito District that Rowe joined reported that the samples of mosquitos collected thus far had tested negative for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. It was reported that a positive case occurred in Plymouth County.

- Chair Rice said there was nothing new to report regarding the Park. There was a question posed from the Park Commission regarding the reopening of the gym at Town Hall. Chair Rice said it would be addressed at the next Board of Health meeting.
- It was reported that the Library by appointment visiting was working well and many were still opting to use the curbside services currently offered.
- There would be vaccine clinics conducted as drive up for Rowe, Charlemont and Hawley residents on September 26th and for Heath, Colrain and Rowe on October 3rd.
- Chair Rice said the Nurse position to fill with the retirement of Sheila Litchfield is still ongoing with no suitable applicant.
- Personal Protective Equipment (ppe) was obtained by the Fire Chief and delivered to the Fire Station where it is stored. It was provided by Homeland Security funding through FRCOG.
- Ben Werner, Director of Rowe Camp and Conference Center reported that there is no programming at the Camp.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Selectman Semanie.

MOTION: Roll call vote to call to order:

Chair Sokol: yes
Silva: absent
Vice-Chair Semanie: yes

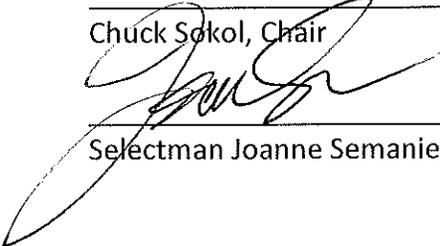
Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary

Approval Date:

Approved:



 Chuck Sokol, Chair


 Selectman Joanne Semanie

Documents:

Agenda August 11, 2020