

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY RESPONSE TEAM April 5, 2020

Meeting started a little late (after 1) due to unexpected requirement for a meeting password, which David found & shared as people called in.

Committee Attendees: David Hill, Melissa Yosua-Davis, Mary Holt, Donna Damon, Bev Johnson, Leila Bisharat, Ann Kirkpatrick (school), Carol Sabasteanski (CTC), Marjorie Stratton (Municipal), Michael Hollander (CTC)

Public attendees: Abby Julien, Erika Neumann, Jackie Trask, John Holt

Minutes:

Erika, who was not at the last meeting, stated that communications needed increased navigability and most efficient distribution on and off line.

David Hill moved to accept the minutes of April 2; seconded by Bev Johnson. Unanimous

CTC Update: Carol Sabasteanski/Michael Hollendar

1. COVID TESTING: After much negotiation with insurance company, **CTC can transport COVID19 suspects going for testing on Barge**; this is not a rescue service; service will be free of charge; Barge is on the mooring; must follow specific protocols, which are being developed:

- drive on/off barge
- windows must be closed
- no contact with crew
- arrangements will be made through the CTC office on an individual basis as needed

Carol noted that it's been a tough time to get the barge off. Negotiations with the insurance company were tough and took several days. Royal River is short handed because of folks staying home due to the virus. CTC had to hire the boatyard to do the work; didn't bother to paint and other discretionary maintenance; had to hire someone from Rockland launch barge.

Questions re: island cars without plates on the mainland? It was suggested that folks leave island car at Cousins and drive a mainland car to the test. The person's Dr. must arrange test and the barge needs to work around the tides.

(Carol submitted the following addition (via email) to her report, which she forgot to include at the meeting.)

In the CART meeting (4/5/20) I neglected to mention that I have made contact with a water taxi that is willing to transport COVID 19 suspects - but not emergencies.

- Fogg Boat Works is willing to provide water taxi services to people who are going to town for testing, etc. The number is 207-415-8493.
- I spoke with the owner and he said they were willing to take people off island for testing and take people back to island - even if tested positive.
- He said to contact his son, Evan Fogg with questions.

This could be an option that the town communicates to the public, along with CBL protocols.

- Portland Water Taxi is unwilling to transport people in this situation.

2. Parking: Bus will stop running as of April 7; a list has been compiled of approved car owners from Rt. 1, who must have cars at Cousins; Carol will move vehicles for folks so they don't need to go over; second cars at Cousins must be moved to Rt. 1 lot; Alice Mellin has agreed to let overflow from the Cousins' lot, park in her family lot on Wharf Rd. Carol is assigning people there. The Blanchard lot has 140 cars – high for this time of year; Carol has spoken to Electric Company to park at top of Wharf Rd., which would provide more parking. She is waiting for a response. Several folks at Cousins volunteered to move to Mellin's so those from RT 1 with handicapped stickers can be in Cousins lot.

3. MISC: CTC no longer collecting tickets; this time has been very difficult for CTC employees and the Board; they are working very hard to find solutions working with the Town and community. They have spent days trying to resolve the insurance issues and working on alternatives.

Bus drivers will be redeployed to Cousins lot for supervision of parking; only essential workers will be allowed to park without stickers. No bikes will be allowed on the boat.

4. Private skiffs: The question of folks using private skiffs to access testing was raised by Erika. Chebeague regulates the CTC float, while Yarmouth has the other when when in. It was suggested that the communications committee draft a statement about using private boats. Donna volunteered to help them if needed.

5. Inn Rumors: Carol reported that she had seen some rumors about the Inn on Facebook so she had called Glen, the Inn manager re: rumors about the Inn opening. She learned that the Chef and boyfriend are on island – no other employees will be coming to island; no work will be done at the Inn; they will not be using parking passes; Glen is more than happy to speak with people. They will not do anything or bring anyone here until this staying in place is over.

- Leila: a brief statement would be helpful
- Erika: volunteered to get it

• Melissa thanked Carol for her report and clarifying the issues around the Inn.

Michael Hollendar – CTC Board: The CTC board is working actively to resolve insurance issue; board is unanimous that the Independence is the best mode of transportation. David mentioned that lawyers and the State are involved trying to resolve the issue, but as of now the issues relating to insurance are the obstacles. Michael reported that despite the rumors to the contrary, the Islander is more than a month away from being ready, ... doesn't help with insurance issue.

Leila noted that CTC is short of deck hands and captains – now only 2 of each. Can they train new people? Michael said it makes sense but we will have to work on backup crew. David noted that they have to pass a drug test.

David Hill mentioned that Nancy Hill had made masks for the CTC Crew.

Communications: Bev: hoping to make it a one-link document – an HTML – anything easier to 'use'. Donna commented that the updates were great but that the dates were not in order.

- Bev: Erika has been doing a fabulous job – hoping to simplify -- make it better
- Leila: remember – just a few days ago there was nothing -- big hat off to Marjorie and Staff – now fine-tuning
- Bev: our ToCI front web page is better than other sites
- Melissa: hoping for html – needs newest at top; great that it's starting to go out to folks
- Donna: communications team doing fabulous job, right people for committee

Governor's order RE: rentals/lodging may need a ToCI communications re: lodging, short-term rentals, etc.

- Donna will bring it up at BOS meeting
- Leila: they put on link to Governor's order "don't know if it will be extended."
- Donna: any kind of vision for community mailing?
- Erika: HTML page will not be the mailing – maybe a concern for a "7 page" document being a covid19 carrier. A post card could have a few specifics once CTC insurance issue is resolved.

Donna pointed out that those with out Internet have had no information. We need to send something out to everyone and explain how we are going to share information both on and off line. We can't wait for the CTC insurance issue to be resolved to contact all residents. All residents need to know what to do now.

- Erika addressed navigability; timely updates; distribution; Bev's page, ToCI, ChebWeb; so much to update already.
- Donna: asked Leila about the committee's vision for an on island mailing
- Leila: will go through town, less expensive

Other issues:

- Leila noted that she and Eliza had monitored CBL freight and people were respecting social distancing.
- Donna noted that Polly had mentioned that CBL were requiring masks and gloves. She was unsure if this referred to crew, passengers or both. She will follow up and report back.
- Should the Town have a statement re: Seasonal rentals not allowed under Governor's order?

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

David will send the Committee all of the new Zoom protocols including password

**Next Meeting
Thursday, April 9 at 2 pm**

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Holt and Donna Damon