

# Town of Truro

## Town Manager's Weekly Report

April 24, 2020

### Announcements:

- **A Special Note from the Truro Health Department:**  
*Please help in slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus by limiting movement outside of your homes beyond what is absolutely necessary to take care of essentials. We expect to see an increase in community spread, especially over the next two weeks. If you do need to go out, we advise you to wear a mask, maintain 6 feet social distancing, and follow good hygiene practices. While there is no need for panic, we want to highlight the seriousness of the pandemic. Our community WILL benefit from your decision to take precautions.*
- Travel Guidance released by Governor Baker directs that, beginning March 27, all travelers arriving to Massachusetts are instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days. Visitors are instructed not to travel to Massachusetts if they are displaying symptoms. Health care workers, public health workers, public safety workers, transportation workers and designated essential workers are exempt from this requirement.
- **Citizens can now view virtual meetings on Channel 18 in Truro and on the web on the "Truro TV Channel 18" button under "Helpful Links" on the homepage of the Town of Truro website. Click on the green "Watch" button in the upper right of the page.** Please note that the meetings are held remotely, and you may only hear audio. For more information on remote meetings, please [click here](#).
- Due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, **Truro's Annual Town Meeting is postponed to June 23, 2020. Truro's Annual Election is postponed to June 30, 2020.**
- The Town of Truro posts updates about the COVID-19 pandemic on the Town website. Please [click here](#) for our COVID-19 Information Page. The COVID-19 Information Page button is now more prominent on the home page of the Town of Truro website.

### This week's activities of note from the Town Manager's Office:

- Beach Parking areas and beaches remain open for all Town and CCNS beaches. Please continue to social distance and please do not litter.
- I met virtually with my Outer Cape counterparts and CCNS Superintendent Carlstrom to continue our discussions on management during the pandemic.
- I met virtually with my counterparts from Brewster, Chatham, Orleans, Eastham, Wellfleet and Provincetown and all our Health Agents to discuss what "reopening" might look like. Until we receive further guidance from the State, we are having very preliminary discussions. The Towns all agreed that it would be helpful if we continue to work together.
- Town Accountant Brazil, Assistant Town Manager Clark and I met virtually with department heads and other key staff to discuss budget impacts of the pandemic. Staff is considering a variety of scenarios and how to adjust operations accordingly. As we receive more guidance from the Baker-Polito Administration, this will help us narrow our focus.
- The Truro Select Board voted to extend 2020 second half real estate and personal property tax payment and exemption deadlines to June 1, 2020 due to COVID-19. For more information, [click here](#).
- Please remember: **Short-term rentals of any kind are non-essential and are not allowed until at least after May 4 (unless the rentals are for healthcare workers or other essential workers).** This is actively being enforced. Non-compliance will result in issuance of a Cease and Desist Order, non-criminal violation citations and fines. See Health Dept guidance [here](#).

### Upcoming Meetings:

- Tuesday, April 28, 2020-Select Board Remote Meeting @ 2:00PM

### Department News:

#### Police Department

- The members of the Truro Police Department are here to assist our community in any way that we can. Please know that we are doing everything possible to keep our community members safe during this challenging time. Please do not hesitate to contact the department if you have any questions or need

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any assistance.

- Members of the Truro Police again took part in the town's weekly birthday caravan on Wednesday, 04.22.2020. It was great to see so many smiling faces!
- A red heart has become the universal symbol of support and the appreciation for all of our health care workers. The Truro Police Department stands behind you and thanks you for your service. If you have driven by the public safety complex, you may have noticed our symbol of appreciation posted out front. Thank you and please be safe.
- If you need assistance and contact the police department, for your safety and the safety of our officers, please let the call taker know (1) if you or anyone in your household is experiencing any of the warning signs related to the COVID-19 virus or (2) if you or anyone in your household have been in recent contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus.

### DPW

- To address COVID-19, custodians continue to take special care of all entry ways and commonly used areas. Additional surface and hand sanitizer products have been ordered. We also expect additional supplies to arrive soon. The DPW will continue throughout the emergency event with standard staffing levels in all areas. DPW Highway crews will continue with routine springtime clean up and beach and park setup.
- In response to the circumstances related to the COVID-19, we have implemented modified operations at the Transfer Station. We will only be accepting solid waste (trash) and single stream recycling at this time. All other services will be closed. We respectfully request that residents hold onto items until normal operations resume. **Please note: to avoid large crowds, we recommend avoiding the Transfer Station during the following peak hours of traffic. Weekdays from 11AM to 2PM, and Weekends from 11AM to 2PM.** These modified operations will remain in effect until further notice.
- In addition, the following precautions/procedures have been initiated and will be maintained throughout the emergency event.
  - The Transfer Station will extend the off-season schedule and will continue to be closed Wednesdays and Thursdays until June 1, 2020.
  - Signs have been installed at all beach locations to remind the public maintain social distance. Pamet Harbor has also received signage.

### Health Agent

- Governor Baker's Order assuring continued operation of essential services in the Commonwealth, closing certain workplaces, and prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people is in effect until May 4. We have been fielding a variety of questions from the public and business about "re-opening", about the summer season and how they will implement social distancing. We await further guidance from the State about what comes next.
- This week's DPH conference call was replaced with a webinar from DPH about how the contact tracing program will interface with our local Health Department offices through Maven. The CTC (Community Tracing Collaborative) is now performing all contact tracing for positive Covid-19 cases.
- At the Board of Health meeting on 4-21, they continued a scheduled discussion regarding our efforts to obtain compliance from the Truro Motor Inn. The matter will be discussed with Town Counsel in an executive session scheduled before their next meeting on May 5.

### Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- Participated in a conference call with the Barnstable County Advisory Committee and discussed making shellfish bags with the participating towns and coordinating delivery to ARC. We anticipate seed delivery in the later part of June.
- Shellfish relay dates normally begins in April but due to the social distancing guidelines and associated issues, it has been postponed and may begin on or about June 1<sup>st</sup> depending on the current public

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health guidelines.

- Harbor Master Jackett checked with Doug Cameron, Acting Director for the Department of Fish and Game/Boating Access regarding the Boat Ramp Status. At this time boat ramps can remain open for use for those launching/retrieving boats and associated parking based on the order by the Governor and the Guidance from the Department of Public Health. Unconfined outdoor activity is not prohibited, provided social distancing is practiced.

### Recreation and Beach

- The department would like to thank everyone that participated in the Birthday Caravan on 4/22/20 (picture attached). Contingent on registrations, this event will be held every Wednesday in April. For more information or to sign up, visit [www.trurorec.com](http://www.trurorec.com).
- The Truro Community Center is closed but staff can still be reached by phone (508) 487-1632 or email at [dclements@truro-ma.gov](mailto:dclements@truro-ma.gov)
- Recreation staff have been meeting daily online via Microsoft Teams.
- Rec. & Beach Director Clements and COA Director Briscoe are meeting weekly via Microsoft Teams.
- Department held an online Youth Bingo.
- Director Clements and Assistant Director Nunes attended a video meeting for Beach Managers.
- Puma Park Playground is currently closed to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.
- The Recreational League determined to cancel the Spring Softball season due to the COVID-19.
- Department staff have been taking webinars and online trainings.
- All programming is suspended to stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

### Suspended Activities

- Walking Group
  - Tuesdays 9:00 am
- Indoor Walking
  - Various times at the Truro Community Center
- Zumba Fitness
  - Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30 am – 9:30 am at the Truro Community Center
  - Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 am at the Truro Community Center
- Community Pickleball
  - Mondays: 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Truro Community Center
  - Thursdays: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Truro Community Center
  - Fridays: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Truro Central School
  - Saturdays: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- Adult Indoor Soccer
  - Monday 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- Community Volleyball
  - Wednesday 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, Truro Community Center
- The Truro Beach Office is currently closed and is tentatively scheduled to reopen on June 13, 2020.
- For inquiries about the beaches, please call (508)487-1632.
- Beach stickers are not currently required to access Truro beach parking lots. Beach stickers will be required on June 20, 2020.
- 2019 Truro ORV stickers can be purchased by contacting the Rec & Beach Office at [dclements@truro-ma.gov](mailto:dclements@truro-ma.gov) or calling (508)487-1632.

### Council on Aging

- COA staff continuing to handle all incoming calls and emails remotely.
- COA staff are calling all elders of concern, center participants, and responding to all requests for help/information.
- Director Briscoe is coordinating with participants and instructors to offer online programming.
- COA and Rec department exploring multigenerational online programs.

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- COA staff continue to collaborate with Good Neighbor-Truro volunteer group.
- Director Briscoe continuing Live Facebook Dialogue with the Director M, W, F @ 10:00am.
- Director Briscoe continues participating in Lower Cape Outreach Council Food Pantry delivery project and have distributed 35-60 bags of food per week for the month of April.
- COA Director conferencing with COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together), Barnstable County Human Services, Elder Services, SHINE, and CCRTA to coordinate efforts to meet the needs of Cape Cod's older adult population.
- COA staff working with Community Kitchen to provide hot meal to older adults on Sundays. 129 meals were given last week.
- Transportation currently suspended-COAST (Councils on Aging Serving Together) continue to work with CCRTA on potential for on demand "super dart" to help people with grocery pickup, prescription pickup and medical appointments.

### Library

- Library staff continues to perform as many services as they can and engage on social media. The feedback we have received is gratifying.
- Library Director Ford will be virtually testing #LIBRESILIENCE, an all-day seminar on May 4, librarians around the theme of communal resilience.
- Virtual staff meetings, department head meetings, library director meetings are all continuing. They have been extraordinarily helpful in a variety of ways.

### Planning

- The Town Planner continues to coordinate ongoing projects such as the Cloverleaf, work with future applicants, continue compliance work, and field inquiries from the general public. He is also making preparations for the regulatory boards to begin holding virtual meetings in May.

### Assessing

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this week the Select Board adopted local options that allows bills due to the Town with a due date of March 10, 2020 or later to be due on June 1, 2020. This includes 2<sup>nd</sup> half Real Estate Tax bills and Motor Vehicle Excise Tax bills with a due date of 5/1/2020, which are now due June 1, 2020. Also FY20 Statutory and Residential Exemption Applications-previously due 4/1/2020-are now due on June 1, 2020. Please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions at 508.349.3004 x 116 and we will be happy to assist.

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**Attachments**

Birthday Caravan

