

# Town of Truro

## Town Manager's Weekly Report

May 22, 2020

### Announcements:

- The Town of Truro posts updates about the COVID-19 pandemic on the Town website. Please [click here](#) for our COVID-19 Information Page. Please visit the website for the most current information on Truro and State Guidance.
- **The Board of Health issued an order requiring that face masks be worn in public areas of Town. Fabric face masks are now required in addition to social distancing, to protect all members of the public at all places that are allowed to be open, and all housing or commercial complexes with more than 1 unit. The order is available [here](#).**
- **Governor Baker issued an Order effective Wednesday, May 6 requiring face masks or cloth face coverings in public places where social distancing is not possible. This applies to both indoor and outdoor spaces. Exceptions include children under the age of 2 and those unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition. You can view the Order [here](#).**
- Citizens can 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](#).

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

- With the Reopening Massachusetts plan announced on Monday, much of the week included familiarizing ourselves with the guidance, checklists, phases, and other pertinent reopening information, both for Town operations and for our local businesses.
- We launched a new Reopening page on our website. Click [here](#) or click on the new button just below our COVID-19 Information Page.
- Beach Parking areas and beaches remain open for all Town and CCNS beaches. Please continue to social distance and please do not litter. The Cape Cod Reopening Task Force developed uniform signs for Covid-19 beach safety that we have on order.
- Watch for "Wear a mask, do your part" signs on Town property.
- New Guidance to the Cape & Islands Seasonal Community is posted on the Town of Truro website. [Click here](#) to view.
- I met this week with representatives from the various offices in Town Hall and with the Library Director to continue to plan for and address Town building reopening challenges.
- Chair Worthington and I met again with our counterparts from Chatham, Brewster, Orleans, Eastham, Wellfleet and Provincetown to share ideas and challenges related to reopening on the Lower Cape.
- 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 presently permitted (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, May 28, 2020-Select Board Remote Meeting @ 2:00PM
- Thursday, May 28, 2020-Zoning Board of Appeals Remote Meeting on Cloverleaf 40B Public Hearing @ 5:30PM

# Town of Truro

## Town Manager's Weekly Report

May 22, 2020

### Department News:

#### Police Department

- Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an overall decline in local traffic, there has been a significant increase in speeding violations. This is consistent with the national trend. According to the Governors Highway Safety Association, state highway officials are reporting a “severe spike in speeding” during the pandemic. With the holiday weekend upon us, and continued increases in bicycle and pedestrian traffic, we ask that everyone remain mindful of traffic safety laws and regulations.
- In honor of Peace Officers Memorial Day on May 15, Truro Police took part in the Cape Cod Police Cruiser Vigil in Mashpee. Peace Officers Memorial Day honors federal, state and local law enforcement officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. To see photos from the event, you can visit the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmLj8pNSRXo&feature=youtu.be>
- Truro Police would like to wish our emergency medical services public safety partners a Happy EMS week. Thank you for what you do.

#### Harbor Master/Shellfish Constable

- Harbor Master Jackett put in more than half the floats, checking and replacing bridles (chain) to the floats that attach to the mooring chain.
- Harbor Master Jackett put the entrance buoy in and worked on channel buoys replacing hardware and chain to the mooring blocks that will go in this weekend.
- There are reports of fish showing up in local waters and we anticipate Charter boat activity to begin May 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### Recreation and Beach

- We would like to remind the public to continue to practice social distancing while visiting parks, trails, and beaches and that Governor Baker has instructed all travelers to Massachusetts to self-quarantine for 14 days and limit gatherings to 10 people or less.
- No decision on the operation of the Summer Rec Youth Program has been made. The Town is waiting for further guidance from the State of Massachusetts and the CDC.
- The department is organizing a Birthday Caravan for Wednesday, May 27, 2020, and Wednesday, June 3, 2020. 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, email [dclements@truro-ma.gov](mailto:dclements@truro-ma.gov), or via Facebook, and Twitter.
- Rec. & Beach Director Clements and COA Director Briscoe are meeting weekly via Microsoft Teams.
- Town Manager Palmer and Director Clements attended video meeting with the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to discuss reopening guidelines recently released.
- Director Clements and Assistant Director Nunes attended video meeting with Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association – Cape & Islands.
- Puma Park Playground is currently closed to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Per State guidelines, possible opening in Phase 2.
- Department staff have been taking webinars and online trainings.
- All programming is suspended to stop the spread of the Coronavirus. Per State guidelines, possible opening in Phase 2 and Phase 3, depending on activity.

#### 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

## Town of Truro Town Manager's Weekly Report

May 22, 2020

- 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 scheduled to reopen on June 13, 2020.
- Truro Resident Beach Stickers can be purchased by clicking [HERE](#)
- 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 starting June 20, 2020.
- 2019 Truro ORV stickers can be purchased by calling (508)487-1632
- Truro beach fire permits are currently suspended.
- Warning – Recent shark sightings, practice shark safety.
  - Don't swim where seals are present.
  - Don't swim too far from shore.
  - Swim in groups.
  - Avoid wearing shiny jewelry or other accessories (which look like fish scales to a shark).
  - Avoid surfing alone.
  - Avoid areas with signs of baitfish or fish feeding activity – watch for diving seabirds.
  - Be aware that sharks may be present between sandbars or near steep drop offs.

### Council on Aging

- COA staff continuing to handle all incoming calls and emails remotely and from the office which is staffed with one person daily.
- COA staff available M-F; 8-4 by phone and email.
- COA staff are calling all elders of concern, center participants, all older adults in the community, and responding to all requests for help/information/referral.
- Director Briscoe is coordinating with participants and instructors to offer programming online through Zoom, thumbnails for COA website and broadcast on local TV.
- COA staff continue to collaborate with Good Neighbor-Truro volunteer group for food, prescriptions, mail etc.
- Director Briscoe continuing Live Facebook Dialogue with the Director M, W, F @ 10:00AM.
- Director Briscoe developing online psychoeducational support group via Zoom.
- Director Briscoe continues participating in Lower Cape Outreach Council Food Pantry distribution weekly through May. Food bag distribution 35-50 bags per week.
- COA staff responding to emergency food needs throughout the week.
- COA Director Briscoe 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. More than 320 meals were provided last week.

### Library

- Library staff has been researching best practices of contactless, or "curbside" library service. There are some materials to read, but sometimes they are contradictory and written guides need to be adapted by each library. According to the literature, the process is labor-intensive and the protocols must be strict. More materials will be supplied by the Mass. Board of Commissioners, American Library Association,

# **Town of Truro**

## **Town Manager's Weekly Report**

**May 22, 2020**

---

and Mass. Government.

- Home delivery to homebound patrons has been available for the past several years, but we expect this service to be used a great deal more this summer.
- The four Outer Cape libraries are regularly communicating. Our goal is to begin the curbside service on the same day, so that one library doesn't get inundated.
- The Board of Library Trustees held their first virtual meeting on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting can be viewed on the town website.

### Assessing

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 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 May 1, 2020, which are now due June 1, 2020. Also, FY20 Statutory and Residential Exemption Applications-previously due April 1, 2020 are now due on June 1, 2020. Please feel free to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions at 508.349.7004 x 116 and we will be happy to assist.

### Attachments