

Truro Board of Health Minutes
April 30, 2020
1:30pm - REMOTE MEETING

Members Present: Chair Tracey Rose, Vice-Chair Jason Silva, Member Mark Peters, Member Tim Rose, Clerk Peter Van Stratum, Alternate Member Meredith Goff

Others Present: Health Agent Emily Beebe; Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer

Chair Tracey Rose called the meeting to order at 1:41pm.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

**THIS MEETING IS HELD TO DISCUSS ADOPTION OF AN EMERGENCY ORDER TO REQUIRE MASK
OR FACIAL COVERINGS IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES**

Ms. Rose read the proposed Order into the record:

The Rule and Order requiring the use of masks and other protective measures is pursuant to the declaration of a statewide public health emergency on March 10, 2020, M.G.L. c. 111, Sections 31 & 122, 310CMR 11.05; 105CMR 300.200 and all other authorizing statutes and regulations.

We, the members of the Truro Board of Health, hereby Order the following:

1. All members of the public entering any place allowed to be open to the public pursuant to Governor Baker's COVID-19 Executive Orders, including but not limited to grocery stores, gas stations, the Town's transfer station and the like, must wear a cloth face covering that covers their nose and mouth such as a fabric mask, scarf or bandana over his/her nose and mouth.
2. The cloth face coverings required are not surgical masks, or N95 respirators, which should be left for medical professionals and first responders.
3. The face covering requirements of this Order shall also apply to all members of the public picking up food from a restaurant or other establishment serving food to be consumed off-premises. This requirement shall apply whether the food is picked up inside or outside. If customers are waiting in line, they shall be wearing masks and standing at least six feet apart. Establishments shall make the markings in the floor to ensure this requirement is met.
4. Notwithstanding any provision in this Order, pursuant to guidance issued by the CDC, face coverings shall not be placed on young children under two years old, anyone who has trouble

breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance, or anyone due to a disability who is unable to wear a mask.

5. All establishments open to the public shall post a sign on their main entrance doors advertising consumers that they are required to wear a face covering upon entering.

6. All employees of all essential businesses open to the public shall wear a face covering over their mouth and nose when interacting with the public and when within six feet of a co-worker. Employers shall provide face coverings to employees who do not use their own. Employers and employees must use previously prescribed protocols and guidelines for personal protective equipment and hand sanitizer is to be provided by the employer for staff use.

7. Any resident or member of the general public entering or exiting a residential or commercial building complex of greater than one unit must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth while in common areas and commercial spaces and must exercise social distancing in these spaces in with CDC guidelines. See these guidelines at www.cdc.gov .

8. Brick and mortar establishments included on Governor Baker's list of essential businesses will be allowed to operate in accordance with the orders and guidance of the Governor and the Department of Public Health including but not limited to effective social distancing and occupancy limit measures.

9. To the extent necessary, this Order shall be enforced by the Truro Health Agent, the Assistant Health Agent and Truro police officers.

10. Whoever violates any provision of this Order may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition process as provided in MGL c. 40, Section 21D and the Town's non-criminal disposition by-law.

11. If non-criminal disposition is elected then any person who violates any provision of this regulation shall be subject to: for a first offense, a written warning; for a second offense, a penalty of \$100.00; for a third offense, a penalty of \$200.00; for a fourth or subsequent offense, a penalty of \$300.00. Each day a portion thereof shall constitute a separate offense. If more than one, each condition violated shall constitute a separate offense.

This emergency order shall be effective May 1, 2020 and shall remain in effect until notice is given pursuant to the Truro Board of Health's judgment that the public health emergency no longer exists.

Ms. Rose requested questions and comments from the Board and the Agent:

The Agent stated that the Order would be advertised in the newspaper and posted on the website; all licensees and permit holders will be notified by email of the Order. The Order has been vetted by Town Counsel. If approved by the Board of Health, the Order will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for them to endorse.

Ms. Rose commented that the people on the front lines: doctors, nurses, EMT's and fire fighters use masks because they work.

Mr. Silva supported the Order and felt it was a good fit for Truro.

Mr. Van Stratum asked how effective a cloth mask is. The Agent referred Mr. Van Stratum and the public to the CDC website about masking pursuant to their recommendations.

Ms. Goff added that it might be somewhat helpful to add context or an introductory statement to the Order about why a mask is required; masks are intended to protect others, if you are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic, and it does not in any way preclude the guidelines for social distancing, touching your face, etc.

The Agent agreed with Ms. Goff's point is sound and suggested adding the following language to Item 1, "in addition to social distancing, and in an effort to protect others". At the end of Item 1 the following language will be added, "wearing a mask is not a substitute for social distancing".

There was discussion regarding changes to the term "PPE".

Ms. Rose welcomed Town Manager, Rae Ann Palmer to the meeting. Ms. Palmer added that she supports the Order the BOH is considering; if approved, the Order will be placed on the Select Board's agenda.

The Agent reviewed the proposed changes to the Order. The language of "his/her" would be revised to "their" to eliminate the pronouns.

Item 6 will be revised to read, "employers must prescribe protocols and guidelines for masks and personal protective gear, and hand sanitizer shall be provided by the employer for staff use".

Motion: Mr. Peters moved to approve the Rule and Order requiring the use of masks and other protective measures dated April 30, 2020 to be effective May 1, 2020; seconded by Mr. Rose; Vote: 5-0-0, motion carries.

Motion: Mr. Rose moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Silva; Vote: 5-0-0, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Fogarty 

