

## **TOWN OF SCITUATE COVID-19 UPDATE**

June 11, 2020

Board of Selectmen approved outdoor seating for nine restaurants so that they can adhere to the public safety guidelines under Phase II openings. They include Barker Tavern, Hiberian Tavern, Mill Wharf, Oro, Riverside, The Voyage, Salt Society, Galley, and Riva. Hours approved are Sunday-Thursday 11am-8pm, Friday-Saturday 11am-10pm. The Galley also received permission to extend their operations Thursdays 4-8pm, Friday-Saturday 4pm-10pm, and Sunday 1pm-8pm on to Front Street. This will require closure of the street from Beal Place to Otis Place. BOS also gave Town Administrator permission to grant expansion onto Front Street to other restaurants and businesses on Front Street and is encouraging shops to use outdoor space for sidewalk sales, if they'd like. First closure will be this Saturday, 6/13/20. Please follow the safety guidelines in place for restaurant dining (wear a mask when not seated at your table, prior reservations required).

No new additional COVID19 cases in Scituate residents. Five new cases were confirmed at the Life Care Center (not in Scituate numbers because of State reporting systems).

Library has begun curbside pickup of Scituate materials on Tuesday, Thursdays, and Saturdays. OCLN will not be delivering materials from other libraries. You can reserve books on line or call the library. Drop offs can be any time in the drop box. The Library is working on safety measures which will allow the eventual reopening of the building.

Town Hall is back to full staff. Starting next Monday, 6/15, residents may make appointments to come to Town Hall to conduct business. Call the department you wish to visit for an appointment and call when you arrive at the building and someone will let you in. You will need to provide contact information upon arrival.

Financial Forecasting Team met and decided to revise the FY21 budget to reflect a 10% anticipated reduction from State aid funds from FY20 year budget. This will be a \$1.5M reduction from the BOS and Advisory approved budget. BOS and Advisory will review the proposed revisions next week and submit to Town Meeting for approval on June 27th.

Town Meeting will be held outside at the Scituate High School Football stadium beginning at 9am on Saturday, June 27th. Safety procedures will be put in place and social distancing/masks will be required. TA will propose two consent agendas: one for items to approve that are routine in nature and one for items to be postponed to another Town Meeting when public engagement will not be restricted by COVID19 precautions. Consent agendas put several articles together for one vote and greatly reduce the amount of time needed at Town Meeting. As always, if someone objects to placing any particular article in the consent agenda, it will be pulled out and debated along with the remaining articles. TA will recommend that anything not pertaining to budgets or immediate response needed, be placed in one of the consent agendas.

Saturday, June 13th is Town Election. It will be held from 9am to 2pm at the High School gym. Residents are required to wear masks and other safety procedures will be in place. Please be patient to ensure these measures can be followed.

Reminder that outdoor watering restrictions are in place. Residents may use automatic irrigation once a week based on the precinct schedule on the town website. Usage has been

way up (over 1 million gallons per day) and conservation is needed to protect our summer surge demands. Fines will be \$100/day if residents don't comply.

Green sand filter construction is about to begin on Tack Factory Pond. This work will increase our water supply.

The Musquashcut Pond berm replenishment work will begin shortly to repair storm damage between North Scituate beach and Egypt Beach. This will, unfortunately, require hundreds of trucks of replacement stones to be brought in along Gannett and Surfside Road throughout the summer. The Town apologizes in advance for the likely disruptive nature of this work, but it must be completed to protect the homes in that area as well as vital town infrastructure.

Playgrounds will be open soon. Be aware that the parks will not be sanitized by the town staff. Signage will be put up to inform people of the conditions, rules, and safety.

If all goes well with the re-openings, Phase III could begin by June 29th. This will allow a further reduction of restrictions for gathering, indoor dining, and other precautions. The early guidance about school re-openings are problematic because of costs and implementation of class structure changes. The Town and School Committee will continue to work with DESE to learn how to safely restart education in the fall.