

TOWN OF VERNON



Office of the Mayor

14 Park Place • Vernon, CT 06066

Tel: (860) 870-3600 • Fax: (860) 870-3580

www.Vernon-CT.gov

Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor

Michael J. Purcaro
Town Administrator

Dawn R. Maselek
Assistant Town Administrator

DRAFT MINUTES

Town of Vernon Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 11:00AM

Via Zoom Audio Teleconference

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
20 JUL 15 PM 3:55

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Clay, Town Council Member; Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Recovery Officer; James Kenny, Chief of Police; Bruce Klotter, President of Swiss Cleaners; George McGregor, Town Planner; Andrew Marchese, Zoning Enforcement Officer; Steven Prattson, Building Official; Michael Purcaro, Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director; Pauline Schaefer, Town Council Member; Lou Spadaccini, Town Attorney and Daniel Wasilewski, Fire Marshal.

Members Absent: Russell DeBella, General Manager of Reins New York Style Deli Restaurant and Patrice Sulik, Director North Central District Health Department

Additional: Cassandra Santoro, Recording Secretary

Roll call was performed at 11:00 AM by Cassandra Santoro.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. COVID-19 Incident Command Update

Michael Purcaro updated the committee regarding COVID-19 testing in Vernon and the Town's recent advancements in antibody and rapid testing. Rapid testing will be available by the end of July for Vernon Public Schools and will be available to all staff, students and first responders. This rapid test technology requires a special machine that will be no charge to the tax payers. Mr. Purcaro explained that typical swab COVID test results are projected to come back within 2-3 business days but because of the backup at the laboratories it can take up to 5-6 business days. Rapid testing will give results in minutes, however, does not have the same accuracy as the swab test.

Michael Purcaro explained that the Town of Vernon is regularly tracking COVID related expenses and utilizing any State and federal programs to assist the Town in these efforts. Further, the Town of Vernon has been utilizing Plexiglas walls in the Tax Office, Building Department and Town Hall and plan on working on a similar approach for voting ballots.

Discussion ensued in relation to schools reopening in the fall. Dr. Joseph Macary, Superintendent of Vernon Public Schools will be invited to the next scheduled meeting to update the committee.

Discussion ensued.

4. Current Guidance and Orders

Shaun Gately explained that the Executive Orders provided by the State are ever-changing guidance. The Town continues to read through all executive orders and interpret the guidelines that best fit the Town of Vernon. Mr. Gately summarized the most recent Executive Order: 7FFF.

Shaun Gately informed the committee that there have been 800 masks and 73 thermometers distributed to local businesses and there have been no new outdoor permits have been received.

5. Local Recovery and Reopening Strategy

None.

6. Next Steps

Michael Purcaro explained that this committee will continue to meet on a weekly basis and that the Vernon Public Schools update will be on the next meeting agenda.

7. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes of July 2, 2020.

Approval of the minutes for July 2, 2020 meeting were moved by Julie Clay and seconded by Pauline Schaefer. No discussion. The motion passed with no opposition.

8. Next Meeting

Next ZOOM meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 16, 2020.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:43AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Santoro,
Recording Secretary