

TOWN OF VERNON



Office of the Mayor

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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, August 27, 2020 at 11:00AM

Via Zoom Audio Teleconference

1. Roll Call

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

Members Absent: Russell DeBella, General Manager of Reins New York Style Deli Restaurant and James Kenny, Chief of Police.

Additional: Cassandra Santoro, Recording Secretary

Roll call was performed at 11:03 AM by Cassandra Santoro.

2. Public Comment

None

3. COVID-19 Incident Command Update

Michael Purcaro updated the Committee on the following:

- The Town is currently tracking the potential for severe weather this afternoon. Damaging winds, hail and tornados could be expected.
- The Town of Vernon had two emergency declarations: one for COVID and one for Tropical Storm Isaias. Tropical Storm Isaias declaration will be closed once the cost of the storm has been completed.

- State Homeland and Security is encouraging local businesses to have their policies for masks and COVID safety to be readily available and easily seen.
- ECHN is promoting residents to get preventative health care. Do not distance yourself from your doctor.
- COVID testing continues twice a week in Vernon.

Discussion ensued.

4. Local Nursing Home Prevention

Michael Purcaro introduced Paul Liistro of Vernon Manor.

Paul Liistro introduced himself and explained that he and his family have been in the long care facility business since 1966. Mr. Liistro explained the struggles with the price increase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), keeping all residents safe and healthy, and the restriction of visitors. Mr. Liistro also expressed his thoughts on the importance of testing and his interest in the new rapid testing capabilities. Mr. Purcaro said he would supply Mr. Liistro with the information for Priority Urgent Care, where the Town does all COVID testing.

Discussion ensued.

5. Current Guidance and Orders

Shaun Gately summarized executive order 7000. This executive order extended outdoor dining to November 12, 2020. Mr. Gately explained that he is still waiting to hear back from The Tolland County Chamber of Commerce regarding setting up PPE refund application assistance.

Discussion ensued.

6. Local Recovery and Reopening Strategy

Daniel Wasilewski informed the committee that we are beginning to see an economic recovery. One business has requested to set up a large tent to start doing sidewalk sales and said that businesses are starting to open and flourish.

Discussion ensued.

7. Next Steps

The Local Recovery and Reopening Advisory Committee will continue to meet weekly.

8. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2020.

Approval of the minutes for August 27, 2020 meeting were moved by Pauline Schaefer and seconded by Daniel Wasilewski. No discussion. The motion passed with no opposition.

9. Adjournment

Pauline Schaefer made a motion to adjourn at 11:48AM. Daniel Wasilewski seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Santoro,
Recording Secretary