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Advisory #78

Monday, June 1, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

## **TOWN OF KINGSTON**

Office of the Board of Selectmen Town House 26 Evergreen Street Kingston, Massachusetts 02364 <u>www.kingstonmass.org</u>

Board of Selectmen Joshua Warren, Chairman Elaine A. Fiore, Vice Chairman Sandra D. MacFarlane, Clerk Jessica Kramer

Town Administrator/ Chief Procurement Officer Thomas J. Calter III

As of 5:00 PM this evening the Department of Public Health (DPH) has not released today's updated number confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. **This afternoon the Town of Kingston was informed of 1 additional confirmed positive case of COVID-19, bringing our total number to 94.** Of the Town's total number of confirmed positive cases, 51 are from one facility. Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to COVID-19. Fire Chief Mark Douglass notified the group that at today's 1:00 PM Board of Selectmen meeting, the Board voted to support his recommendation to hold Kingston's Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Kingston Intermediate School. Chief Douglass shared that he has consulted with a number of Towns throughout Plymouth County and found that the majority will be conducting indoor Town Meetings with appropriate precautions. Mark will be developing a comprehensive safety plan for Kingston's Annual Town Meeting and we will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Chief Douglass also shared that Kingston's first responders remain adequately stocked with personal protective equipment (PPE), though there may be a need for additional surgical masks in the near future.

Police Chief Maurice Splaine reported on this weekend's Silver Lake Regional High School Class of 2020 parade. Over 200 graduating seniors participated in the event; they met at their respective elementary schools before traveling to the Silver Lake Regional Middle School and High School on what would have been their graduation day.

Director of Elder Affairs Paula Rossi-Clapp shared that all of her staff are back in their offices, and transportation services at the Council on Aging (COA) have resumed. Kingston seniors in need of transportation services such as trips to the grocery store, medical appointments, pharmacies, etc., are encouraged to contact the Council on Aging at (781) 585-0511. Working with Fire Chief Mark Douglass, Paula has created a series of new standard operating procedures to ensure the safety of passengers and drivers. Passengers will be asked a series of pre-screening questions before boarding the vehicles. All drivers will wear face coverings, and will have access to N95 masks if need be. Drivers will also sanitize vehicles and touch points between rides.

This morning the Town of Kingston welcomed back staff at Animal Control, the Kingston Public Library, the Recreation Department, and Town House. Below, please find additional information regarding the Town's planned reopening. This information has also been posted on the Town's website.

**Animal Control:** Kingston's Animal Control offices remain on-call throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with limited on-site services. Staff have now returned to their offices, and volunteers are tentatively scheduled to return on Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Animal Control at (781) 585-0529 with any questions.

**Council on Aging:** Kingston's Council on Aging has remained open for outreach services and meal deliveries throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Transportation services have now resumed. The building and related programming will remain closed, pending further guidance from the Commonwealth. Please contact the Council on Aging at (781) 585-0511 with any questions.

**Kingston Harbormaster:** The Ah Dee Nah is open for limited use. Rules for use have been posted throughout the property. The parking lot is closed at 9:00 PM. Shellfishing is open for the season. Additional information regarding shellfishing licenses can be found online at <u>https://bit.ly/3eqDOJU</u>. Please contact the Kingston Harbormaster at (781) 585-0519 with any questions.

**Library:** The Kingston Public Library has maintained digital services and programming throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The building will remain closed to the public through June 29<sup>th</sup>, though curbside pickup services have begun. Please contact the Kingston Public Library at (781) 585-0517 with any questions.

**Recreation Department:** Recreation Department staff have now returned to their offices. Gray's Beach Park is currently open with restrictions and limited amenities. Rules for use have been posted throughout the property. Athletic fields will remain closed, pending further guidance from the Commonwealth. Please contact the Kingston Recreation Department at (781) 585-0533 with any questions.

Schools: Please visit www.slrsd.org for information relating to the Silver Lake Regional School District.

**Town House:** Town House staff have now returned to their offices. The building will open to the public by appointment on June 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to schedule an appointment to meet with staff in the building, please call the appropriate department to make those arrangements. Department phone numbers will be posted on the doors, and can be found at <u>www.kingstonmass.org</u>. If visiting the Town House, please adhere to the posted rules and traffic flow signage.

This information will be posted on the Town's website. All dates are subject to change, so we ask for your continued patience.

At 10:30 AM last Friday, PACTV aired a COVID-19 Update for the Town of Kingston. The program featured Dr. Elizabeth Ryan of Integrated Counseling Centers in Plymouth. Dr. Ryan, who is a senior citizen herself, spoke about what seniors can do to identify and combat anxiety and depression, along with ways, tips, and strategies to maintain their mental health. The program will be rebroadcast on Kingston's Government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42). We will link the program to the Town's website as soon as it becomes available online.

Thank you for your continued efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19,

John Warran

Board of Selectmen