

Town of Corinth  
Board of Selectmen  
PO Box 461  
Corinth, VT 05039

Unapproved Minutes of an Emergency Meeting of the Select Board  
March 23, 2020

By teleconference, beginning at 10:10 AM.

Present for the board: Chris Groschner, Steve Long, Rick Cawley

Catherine Tudish, select board clerk

Others present: Christiane Carroll, Christopher Diaz, Carole Freeman, Nick Kramer, Anne McKinsey, Zach McNeal, Jeff Spiegel

This meeting was held to address the resources and personnel available to meet the needs of the town as the spread of COVID-19 continues to progress.

Groschner began by calling on the select board to appoint an emergency management director.

Cawley made a motion to appoint Groschner to that position.

Long seconded, and the motion passed.

Groschner said the select board is organizing teams to manage the various tasks as needed to ensure that town residents have vital information and services. He noted that the select board is, at the same time, responsible for carrying on with its regular jobs.

Groschner said that Long will be in charge of assigning volunteers to specific tasks as required, and Kramer will be chair of the group for communication.

Kramer said he is already linked to communication networks.

Groschner said the first task is to create a weekly Zoom conference on one of the two weekend days.

Kramer said he would send out an on-line poll to determine availability of volunteers for Zoom conferences. These will be weekly gatherings to check in about the activities and needs of the various groups.

Long asked about communication to the outside world.

Groschner replied that the purpose will be to keep the select board and all group chairs in the loop and will address both internal and external functions.

McNeal asked if there would be a deputy emergency management position.

Groschner replies that there may be, but not at this point.

McKinsey asked if the weekly Zoom conference would be for the team leaders to come together.

Groschner replied yes, but others will be included if necessary.

Cawley pointed out that any regular meetings involving the select board have to be posted.

Groschner recommended announcing the regular meeting time once to cover all future meetings.

Groschner said there would be seven groups: food, medical, technical, transportation, communication, volunteers, and state aid support.

Spiegel asked if mental health was included with medical.

Groschner replied that mental health is included.

Groschner said that for some areas, such as transportation, the group members and a manager still have to be decided on.

Groschner noted that the town has a way for people to ask for help by calling 439-3500.

Spiegel said that people are already asking for food help, although not yet through the emergency number.

Groschner said the number should be advertised more widely.

McKinsey suggested putting a notice of the number in the upcoming town newsletter.

Groschner said a poster advertising the 439-3500 number could be included in the newsletter.

Spiegel said Carlotta Peratoni was creating a 30-second message to read out to school families. He suggested she could use the text of the poster and include the number for Topsham, as well.

Long said a lot of people have volunteered to provide transportation.

Spiegel said those involved in transportation should be given safety protection.

Groschner asked McNeal about the availability of gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer.

McNeal replied that they were available, although the N95 masks are limited to first responders.

Long moved to adjourn; Groschner seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.