



# Town of Bellingham

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

Tel: 508-657-2800 \* 508-966-4425

June 19, 2020

The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order remotely at 10:00 AM by Chairman Michael Connor using Zoom Technology. A roll call confirmed all members of the Board were participating. Also actively participating in the meeting was Town Administrator Denis Fraine, Administrative Assistant Hilarie Allie, Board of Health Agent Bruce Wilson and Building Inspector Tim Aicardi. The remote meeting was being monitored by Jim Kupfer, Town Planner and Zoning Officer. It was determined by Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place that no in-person attendance of Board members or any member of the public would be permitted at this meeting. This meeting was accessible to the public via the Zoom online option.

Mr. Connor stated the purpose of this meeting was to consider the applications of Pete's Bluebird, the VFW and Plaza Mexico (who just dropped off new plans this morning) for the extension of their liquor licenses to outdoor seating per the executive order of the Governor granting the Local Licensing Board authority to approve such applications during the State of Emergency.

Mr. Martinis asked if the sites had been inspected by the local inspection team. Mr. Aicardi stated they visited Pete's Bluebird, the VFW and Plaza Mexico. Pete's will do their additional seating in the back of the building and the area will be sheltered by the building and will not impact their parking lot. The VFW is looking to serve food and reopen their kitchen. They have a Serve Safe person and have updated their food permit. They will be serving in the back of the building under the tented picnic area and will not be in the parking lot area. Plaza Mexico dropped off plans this morning that showed additional tables that will extend to the side of their patio in the side parking lot. This was different then the original plan to put a few tables on the sidewalk in the front of the restaurant.

On a Spencer/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted to approve the extension of Pete's Bluebird All Alcohol Restaurant License to the additional outdoor seating area in the back of the restaurant per the executive order of the Governor granting the Local Licensing Board authority to approve these applications during the State of Emergency.

Discussion ensued regarding Plaza Mexico and the social distancing concerns Mr. Martinis had brought up at the last Board meeting. Mr. Aicardi stated that he and Mr. Wilson had been down to see the owners and had requested that they spread out the tables on the patio to allow for better social distancing. Mr. Kupfer stated they recognize that the patio is too tight and as a result want to expand their seating to their parking lot.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion, the Board unanimously voted to approve the extension of Plaza Mexico's All Alcohol Restaurant License to the additional outdoor seating in the side parking lot of the restaurant pending a barrier is installed and final sign off by the building inspector per the executive order of the Governor granting the Local Licensing Board authority to approve these applications during the State of Emergency.

On a McNulty/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted to approve the extension of the VFW All Alcohol Club License to allow for outdoor seating in the back of the club Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 4PM-10PM per the executive order of the Governor granting the Local Licensing Board authority to approve these applications during the State of Emergency.

Mr. Spencer asked the Board to consider allowing Bellingham restaurants to open for indoor dining on Sunday which is Father's Day with the anticipation of the Governor's announcement that Phase 2 Step 2 will be starting on Monday which includes indoor dining. Mr. Spencer stated this is something we could do for the Town's local businesses and will have minimum public health risk but a decent financial impact by allowing them this extra day of revenue.

On a Spencer/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted to allow for the Sunday opening of indoor dining if the Governor allows the State to do the same on Monday.

On a Spencer/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:25AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Hilarie J. Allie'.

Hilarie J. Allie  
Administrative Assistant