

Village of Cold Spring
Village Board of Trustees
85 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY 10516

Trustees Workshop
2-16-2021

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held an online workshop meeting via video conference pursuant to Executive Order 202.1 on Tuesday February 16, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Present were: Mayor Merandy and Trustees Heidi Bender, Marie Early, Kathleen E. Foley and Frances Murphy. Also present was Recreation Commission Chair Ruthann Cullinan Barr.

DISCUSSION ON “LARGE” EVENTS AND CROWDS IN THE VILLAGE

The Board considered Independence Day celebration, the Putnam Wine & Food Feast and docking of the Seastreak. During the discussion of the Independence Day celebration it was noted that:

- The event will be rescheduled for Labor Day weekend, depending upon COVID-19 related concerns
- Village Clerk will contact the fireworks vendor

During the discussion of the Wine & Food Feast it was noted that:

- Applicant needs time to advertise for both vendors and participants and the Board is concerned about applicant's financial outlay should the application be denied. Event is planned for August.
- It is not known what NYS and Putnam County COVID-19 regulations will be for occupancy and social distancing in August
- Board members expressed the opinion that they are not in a position to be able to approve the event at this time
- Even though infections and deaths are trending downward, a spike between now and August could impact the Board's decision
- Lauren Drummond (sponsor of the event) proposed a set-up similar to the Farmers Market held at Boscobel, where vendors are socially distant, and the number of patrons at a given vendor is limited. Overall patron count would be limited to 300 at a time, with each group leaving and a cleanup performed prior to arrival of the next group.
- R. Cullinan Barr voiced concern about the appearance that the Village would be encouraging large gatherings, especially when other smaller events are not allowed
- Board consensus is COVID-19 considerations argue against approval of this event, but agreed to reconsider the application in June

During the discussion of Seastreak, which usually docks in October through November, it was noted that:

- Trustee Early will contact the Seastreak to determine their plans

- Board voiced the same concerns as for the Wine & Food Feast, in general and for crowding on Main Street specifically
- Could the number of people on each boat be limited and would that be a meaningful action?
- Restaurants count on the patronage of visitors from the Seastreak

REQUEST FOR KIDS FISHING DERBY

During the discussion it was noted that:

- Event is planned for May 2, 2021
- There is a large, but undetermined number participants at this event
- Lake needs to be stocked in advance of event
- Board will ask the event to be postponed until September pending COVID-19 considerations

OLD BUSINESS

Request to hold a wedding at the Bandstand on April 3 2021. During the discussion it was noted that:

- Nine members of the wedding party will be on the bandstand and the balance (26) on the plaza
- Concern was expressed about the variable weather at that time of year and the presence of other residents and visitors in that area
- Applicant to be notified they will need to abide by NYS guidelines for the number of people that can attend an outdoor event, which may change between now and the date of the event
- The Village could block off an area around the bandstand for the duration of the event, but needs to be aware of the precedent this establishes
- Fees will need to be raised to cover additional labor to set up and take down barriers (for police and Highway Department personnel)
- Mayor Merandy suggested an additional fee of \$100.
- Board will confer with CSPD and Highway Department prior to contacting applicant

BOARD BUSINESS

Recreation Commission Chair Ruthann Cullinan Barr noted that:

- Their next meeting will be in March
- The Girl Scouts have requested use of the Pavilion in the spring

CODE UPDATE REVIEW

The Board continued its review of the code and discussed Short Term Rentals and Fences (both new chapters).

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Foley made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Merandy seconded and the motion passed unanimously at 8:19 pm.

Submitted by: M. Mell

Mayor Merandy

Date