



MEETING NOTICE

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MGL 30A §§18-25 and the Governor's March 12, 2020 Executive order

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Name of Board/Committee

Address of Meeting: **Web-based video conferencing meeting for:
Join Zoom Meeting PLEASE JOIN VIA THIS WEB LINK or DIAL IN**
<https://zoom.us/j/94296397553?pwd=M2habVVzV0k3VEFoeFhscmILNTZpQT09>
Meeting ID: 942 9639 7553
Passcode: 182412

One tap mobile +1 646 558 8656 +1 301 715 8592

TUESDAY	OCTOBER	13	2020	10:00 AM
Day of Week	Month	Date	Year	Time

Agenda or Topics to be discussed listed below (That the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed)

Scheduled appointments

Review/Vote Polling Locations – November Election (Evaluation / Survey attached)

- Abbot Hall, 188 Washington Street
- Temple Emanu-el, 393 Atlantic Avenue
- Community Center, 10 Humphrey Street

Votes

Correspondence, Public Participation, New Business

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chairperson: Jackie Belf-Becker Posted by: Kyle Wiley Date: October 6, 2020



Town of Marblehead

Town Clerk

Robin A. Michaud

REPORT ON POLLING PLACE RELOCATION TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020 the Town of Marblehead requests to change polling locations due to a variety of factors. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town is facing challenges to ensure safe access to polling locations while also identifying locations that are conveniently located and accessible to all with no adverse impact to people of all backgrounds.

Historically, the Town has used the Old Town House, Marblehead Community Center and the Masonic Temple for its voting locations. However, due to COVID-19 and the need to keep voters and poll workers safe and properly distanced the Town was forced to change polling locations for each of its last two elections – the Town Election on June 16, 2020 and the Primary Election on September 1, 2020. For the Town's local election on June 16, 2020 the following polling locations were used:

- Precincts 1 and 2: Village School - Gymnasium
93 Village Street
- Precinct 3: Marblehead Community Center - Gymnasium
10 Humphrey Street
- Precincts 4, 5 and 6: Marblehead High School – Field House
2 Humphrey Street

Then, for the Primary Election on September 1, 2020 the Town reduced the polling locations to two school buildings having the Marblehead High School serve as the polling location for Precincts 3, 4, 5 and 6. The Village School served as polling location for Precincts 1 and 2 again.

For both of these prior elections, the change to polling locations met all standards and resulted in public health and safety being better served while also ensuring proper voter access.

CHANGE IN POLLING LOCATIONS – NOVEMBER 3, 2020

The Town now must change polling locations for the General Election on November 3, 2020. The Town utilized schools for polling locations to allow for an increase in usable space to enable the Town to meet all COVID-19 safety guidelines in place. The Marblehead School District is now using all school buildings as they have successfully transitioned all grade levels to a hybrid educational model. Because students are just recently back in the classroom, the School District and Town officials are not comfortable with using the school buildings for several reasons: 1) safety, first and foremost, 2) combining students and the general public in school buildings during the day, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, and 3) with students in school parking constraints will be a major impediment for people to have proper access to polling locations.

Due to these concerns and following extensive discussions among Town officials, the Town of Marblehead is requesting the following changes to polling locations on November 3, 2020:

- Precinct 1 and 2: Abbot Hall - Auditorium
188 Washington Street
- Precinct 3 and 4: Marblehead Community Center - Gymnasium
10 Humphrey Street
- Precinct 5 and 6: Temple Emanu-El
393 Atlantic Avenue

These locations have been toured by the Town Clerk, Chief of Police, Building Commissioner and Public Health Director and all have found these locations suitable. As mentioned earlier, the Marblehead Community Center has historically been used as a polling location. In addition, Abbot Hall has historically been used for the Town's early voting polling location before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Proper safety protocols are already in place that will be easily duplicated during the General Election on November 3, 2020.

The Marblehead Community Center is immediately adjacent to the Marblehead High School and Abbot Hall has historically been used as the Town's early voting site. Marblehead residents are comfortable with voting at both of these locations.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Town has completed the Polling Place and Registration Site Access Reports for each of these polling locations and they are attached to this report.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCE

This will be the third election the Town has hosted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The experience of preparing and organizing for the prior two elections has certainly helped the Town prepare and understand the needs of each polling location to ensure voter safety is paramount.

Because we have lost the ability to use the Marblehead High School as a polling location for the reasons listed above, the Town has once again gone back to three polling locations. These locations have been identified to ensure there is adequate space for the appropriate implementation of safety precautions, to disperse the voter population to keep crowds manageable, and to ensure sufficient parking is available to the voting public.

In prior elections, the Town has made sure that each polling booth is at minimum six feet away for one another so that voters can be socially distanced. Custodians are present during voting hours to sanitize voting booths after use. The use of masks and/or face coverings is strongly encouraged through education in advance of the elections and through signage at each polling location. Floor markings will be used to encourage proper distancing. Hand sanitizer and one-use pens will also be provided. The Town's plans are created and implemented by a team of town officials which includes the Town Clerk, Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, and Public Health Director. In addition, the Town will not have a table to check-out voters in the General Election to allow for voters to move in and out of the polling locations as efficiently as possible.

Lastly, another important consideration is how the mail-in ballot option will effect in-person voting. During the September 23, 2020 Primary Election, the Town of Marblehead experienced a significant amount of mail-in ballots which resulted in a reduction in residents voting in-person and thus far the Town continues to see a large amount of residents taking advantage of this option.

ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE BASIS OF RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, INCOME

The Town does not believe that the proposed changes to polling locations will have an adverse impact on the basis of race, national origin or income.

The Marblehead Community Center is on an MBTA bus route. It is also immediately adjacent to housing units owned and maintained by the Marblehead Housing Authority and also to the Marblehead High School in walking distance for students who are eligible to vote. It is also the Senior Center where many members of our senior population are accustomed to visit for a variety of services and programs.

Abbot Hall is a block away from Pleasant Street which is on a bus route and is well-known as the seat of local government in Marblehead.

Although, this is the first time the Town has used Temple Emanu-El as a polling location it is on a highly traveled, main thoroughfare in Town and easily accessible by car or by walking for those who live in the neighborhood.

VOTER OUTREACH

Town of Marblehead voters will be notified of the change in polling locations through the use of CodeRED automated telephone call and by publishing a notice on the Town of Marblehead website and utilizing the Town's email distribution list. Various Town Departments will also post the polling location change to social media accounts. The Town will also post signage on the day of the Election at formerly used locations redirecting voters and also prominently post signage at polling locations identifying them for voters.


Robin A. Michaud, CMMC
Town Clerk

POLLING PLACE AND REGISTRATION SITE ACCESS

LOCATION: Abbot Hall 188 Washington St. Marblehead DATE: 10/06/2020

WARD: _____ PRECINCT: 1 and 2

SURVEYOR: Richard Baldacci SURVEYOR: Robert Picariello

TITLE: Building Commissioner TITLE: Police Chief

This checklist is based on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's regulations for polling place accessibility 950 CMR 51:00. To complete this survey, you will need a level and a tape measure. Please specify in the "Comments" section, below, any issues that need further clarification.

1. Site access (Path of Travel):

Y (a) The paths of travel to the polling place from the parking lot and from the street are clear, reasonably lit, and unobstructed.

Y (b) The paths have continuous common surfaces, not interrupted by steps or abrupt changes in level greater than 1/2 inch.

Y (c) The path of travel is the same or a substantially similar distance for all persons entering the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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2. Parking:

Y (a) The required number of handicapped parking spaces is provided as follows:

<u>total no. of parking spaces</u>	<u>no. of handicapped spaces required</u>
1 - 25	1
→ 26 - 50	→ 2
51 - 75	3
76 - 100	4
101 - 150	5
151 - 200	6
201 - 300	7
301 - 400	8
401 - 500	9
501 - 1,000	2% of total
1,001 and over	20 plus 1 for each 100 over 1,000

(b) for parking lots striped prior to 9/1/96:

____ (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 4 foot access aisle which is painted or striped yellow. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

____ (2) The handicapped parking spaces are identified by a sign at each space or pair of spaces containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground.

(c) for parking lots striped after 9/1/96:

Y (1) The handicapped parking spaces are 8 feet wide and have an adjacent 5 foot access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonably lit.

Y (2) Is there at least one "van accessible" space. (one in every eight accessible spaces must be van accessible, but no less than one) This space is 8 feet wide and has an adjacent 8-foot wide access aisle which is marked by high contrast painted lines or other high contrast delineation. The parking lot is reasonable lit.

Y (3) Each handicapped parking space is identified by a sign containing the International Symbol of Accessibility, with the top of the sign between 5 and 8 feet high above the ground. Van accessible spaces shall include the words "Van Accessible."

Y (d) Any sidewalk provided at the handicapped parking spaces has a curb cut (sidewalk ramp), with a slope no greater than 1:12, at each space or pair of spaces.

Y (e) If no parking lot is available, there is at least one on-street parking space which is at least temporarily designated as a handicapped parking space during the election in front of the polling place.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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3. Entrance

Y (a) At least one entrance to the building is accessible.

Y (b) The approach to the accessible entrance is a paved walk or ramp with a non-slip surface uninterrupted by steps or changes in level greater than 1/2 inch. There is a level space 60 inches from the door on both the exterior and interior sides.

Y (c) Lever handles or other accessible hardware are provided on doors, so that they may be operated with a closed fist.

Y (d) Doorways are at least 32 inches clear width. Door thresholds are no higher than 1/2 inch above the floor.

Y (e) If the main entrance is not accessible, signs direct people to the accessible entrance.

Y (f) If the accessible entrance is not the main entrance, it is unlocked and able to be used without assistance during the same hours as the main entrance.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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4. Ramps

Y (a) If the entrance has stairs, there is either a permanent or portable ramp. If permanent, the ramp has a slope no steeper than 1:12.

Y (b) The ramp is at least 48 inches wide.

Y (c) The ramp has two pairs of handrails along both sides that are round or oval in shape and are set in pairs, one at a height between 34 and 38 inches and a lower one at a height between 18 and 20 inches.

N/A (d) If the ramp is portable, it is as close to 1:12 as possible, and either handrails or wheel guards at least two inches high on both sides are provided.

(e) Please describe the portable ramp (if applicable):

Comments (City /Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):
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5. Building Interior

Y (a) All interior doors, approaches, and ramps necessary to obtain access to the polling place comply with 3 and 4 above.

Y (b) An accessible route which provides a continuous unobstructed path at least 36 inches wide is maintained inside the polling place and shall coincide with the route for the general public.

Comments (City/Town Representative):	Comments (Monitor):

6. Voting Equipment

Y (a) All Polls - A sample ballot will be posted on the wall no higher than 48 inches above the floor.

Y (b) Paper or Datavote ballots - At least one marking shelf (one for each party in a primary for Datavote) provides a clear space under it at least 30 inches wide, at least 27 inches clear to the underside, and no more than 32 inches high to the top. Any Datavote stylus handle is at least 1 ¼ inches thick and at least 3 inches long.

 (c) Voting machines - At least one machine has a sample ballot posted inside, not higher than 48 inches.

 Voting levers are no higher than 48 inches above the floor, or a "reacher" is available for the upper levels.

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PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED SURVEY TO:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH
ATTN: Bridget Simmons Murphy
Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth
Elections Division
1 Ashburton Place, 17th floor
Boston, MA 02108

POLLING PLACE AND REGISTRATION SITE ACCESS

LOCATION: Temple Emanu-El 393 Atlantic Ave. Marblehead DATE: 10/06/2020

WARD: _____ PRECINCT: 5 and 6

SURVEYOR: Richard Baldacci SURVEYOR: Robert Picariello

TITLE: Building Commissioner TITLE: Police Chief

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