LPSA Membership COVID-19 Update

April 23, 2020

Dear LPSA Membership,

I hope this letter finds you both physically and emotionally healthy. It is exceedingly difficult to adhere to the Guidelines of Social Distancing when we are a social society that relies on physical contact on a regular basis. But Please, continue to endure so that we can all once again enjoy each other’s company. This is a very nasty, contagious, and life-threatening virus.

The LPSA Board had a special Board meeting via (internet) ZOOM on Saturday, April 18, 2020 to discuss our path for the coming summer. We listened to updates from Jim Hammond, CEO of Camp of the Woods, and Jeannette Barrett, Mayor of Speculator. I am pleased to convey that they are both very engaged with all the regional, state, and Federal government agencies. All decisions being made are in accordance with these guidelines.

The LPSA board has decided, out of an abundance of caution, that we will NOT have our June Luncheon this year. Other planned events will be decided as the summer progresses.

LPSA will send out E Blasts to our membership regarding pertinent information regarding the state of the virus and guidance from a variety of official agencies. You will find one from the **Hamilton County Public Health Department** at the end of this letter. We promise to only send things that will be of significance to your continued health or family plans for the summer. Please take the time to read them.

Additionally, Mayor Barrett, and Jim Hammond continue to update their web pages with crucial information.

**Villageofspeculator.com** gives a quite easy to find and read, comprehensive listing of the official communications from Regional and State agencies. A hearty Thank You to Jeannette Barrett for this incredible and thorough web site information.

We hope to be able to see you at some point this summer.

Please read the following information from Hamilton County Public Health Department.

Sincerest Regards,

Lyn Van Druff, LPSA President

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Message from Hamilton County Public Health Department

Public Health Guidance to Seasonal Residents and Rental Property Owners
April 20, 2020

Hamilton County would like to provide some guidance as we prepare to welcome our second home owners back to the Adirondacks. In order to maintain the safety of the public we request that you consider the following information.

Second Home Owners and Snowbirds
• After you arrive, we strongly encourage you to stay at your home/on your own property for 2 weeks. We understand that during your travels you will be in contact with numerous individuals when stopping for gasoline, food, and to rest. This includes post offices, grocery stores, convenience stores, hardware stores, liquor stores, and other essential businesses.
• We do encourage you to use delivery options that many of our local businesses have in place.
• Bring supplies with you that will last you at least two weeks. Our local grocery and convenience stores are able to meet the demands of our current residents; however, a large influx of people will only limit the supplies available for all.
• Be hypersensitive to the fact that we have limited access to healthcare. Our local health centers are limiting visits and utilizing telehealth services to provide care to patients. We do not have a pharmacy in the county, and recommend setting up pharmacy delivery services.

Short/Long Term Rental Owners
• We discourage short term rentals including nightly and weekend rentals. We prefer that if you are renting out your facilities, please consider multi week or monthly rentals. We are sensitive to the fact that these renters stimulate our economy and provide financial stability for our residents.
• Long term renters should be advised that social distancing rules still apply. Gatherings greater than 10 people for any reason including vacations, parties and celebrations are prohibited at this time.
• It would be beneficial to supply your rentals with masks, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to promote good behavior.

Please remember to follow public health safety precautions including social distancing, compliance with wearing a face covering when in public, good handwashing and sanitizing commonly touched surfaces. Hamilton County statistics have been low, only 2 positive cases of COVID with no outbreaks of exposure, and we are all working hard to ensure the numbers stay positive.

Remember it won’t be like this forever! But for now, it is important to be considerate and follow these public health initiatives to slow, and eventually stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

Erica Mahoney
Director of Public Health