

**Town of Edgartown
Selectboard
December 4, 2023
4:00 pm**

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B. Morgan, Jr. Meeting Room of Town Hall. Members present were: Michael J. Donaroma and Margaret E. Serpa. Also present was the Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 4:00 pm Mr. Donaroma opened the meeting and the first item on the agenda which was a public hearing for The Terrace at the Charlotte Inn, LLC to change their liquor license from a Seasonal to an Annual All Alcohol Innholders License. There was no one present from the Inn.

Mr. Donaroma asked if there was any correspondence. There being none he stated that he thought this was a good thing for the Town and saw no issues with it.

Ms. Serpa agreed and moved to approve. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Donaroma then moved on to the next item which was a proposed by-law to limit large Social Events in residential areas. Present was Building and Zoning Inspector Reade Milne.

Ms. Milne stated that there has been a significant increase in large social events in residential areas which has concerned residents. These events are not currently covered by any by-laws, zoning or otherwise. This is an attempt to regulate. It would be a general by-law with enforcement by the Police Department with no pre-existing nonconforming ability.

Below is the proposed by-law:

Limitation on Frequency of Residential Social Events

Section 1: Purpose and Intent. The purpose of this bylaw is to promote and protect the health, safety, welfare, and peaceful enjoyment and quality of life of the residents of the Town of Edgartown (the Town), by regulating the frequency and scale of large social events held at private residences that may disrupt the tranquility and well-being of abutters and the neighborhood.:

Section 2: Definitions. For the purposes of this bylaw, the following definitions shall apply:

a) Private Residence: Any dwelling, house, or building primarily used as a place of residence for individuals or families.

b) Social Event: A gathering or party organized at a private residence for nonprofit, educational, social, fundraising, celebratory, or recreational purposes, including but not limited to, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, reunions, and similar occasions.

c) Guest: An individual attending a social event hosted at a private residence.

Section 3: Limitation on Private Residential Social Events:

a) No private residence within the Town of Edgartown shall host more than two (2) social events per calendar week or five (5) per calendar month, where the number of guests in attendance exceeds fifty (50) people at each event.

b) Exceptions may be granted for events of public or community interest, provided that the Town has adopted a zoning by-law authorizing events of public or community interest at Private Residences by Special Permit.

Section 4: Enforcement:

a) Violations of this bylaw shall be enforced by the Police Department and the Town. The Police Department may seek fines by issuing tickets under the provisions of G. L. c. 40, § 21D, or by seeking criminal complaints in the District Court. The Town may engage counsel to seek injunctive and other relief in the civil courts.

b) Upon receiving a complaint from a resident regarding a violation of this bylaw, the

Police Department shall investigate the complaint and, if a violation is confirmed, shall take such action as it deems appropriate, including forwarding a copy of any incident report to the Town Manager and the Building Official shall serve as prima facie evidence of a violation of this chapter.

c) The penalty for violation of this bylaw shall be \$300.00 per violation. Each day constitutes a separate violation.

Section 5: Severability. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this bylaw shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this bylaw, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6: Effective Date. This bylaw shall take effect upon its approval by Town Meeting and the provisions of G. L. c. 40, § 32.

Mr. Hagerty stated that this is a draft and needs to go through the process of public hearing and a town meeting vote. He recommended setting a public hearing.

Ms. Serpa moved to set a public hearing for January 8th, 2024 at 4:10pm. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

The Board then approved the following items:

The MV Boys & Girls Club Holiday Hustle 5k Road Race.

Christmas in Edgartown Requests: One Day Liquor Licenses:

Stroll December 8th – Landvest, Slate, Sea Legs, Salte, Past & Presents, Nell Home, Nell, Botanical Beauty, Untameable Gallery

Village Green Holiday Market – Board of Trade, December 9th 11am -4pm

MV Savings Bank – Lift Gift Certificate Event, December 6th 4:30pm -6:30pm

Plan it Martha's Vineyard – December 9th 11am – 3pm

Used Car Dealer License Renewal – Russel Swartz

One Day Liquor License – Town Holiday Party

Broadband Infrastructure Gap Networks Grant Program Letter of Support

Fire Department Grant Application - FY24 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant & Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant (VFA)

The Minutes of 11/14/23 and 11/27/23

At 4:16 pm Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn. Mr. Donaroma seconded. The Board did a rollcall vote and all voted Aye. Unanimous

Approved:

Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman

Michael J. Donaroma

Margaret E. Serpa
Selectboard

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Administrative Assistant

Documents included in meeting: Agenda, Applications, Permits, Minutes and Warrants