Dr. Locke’s recommendations reviewed by County Board of Health

Jefferson County Board of Health met yesterday to go over Dr. Tom Locke’s recommendations for applying for a variance to allow some businesses and activities outlined in Gov. Inslee’s Phase 2 to open before the scheduled date of June 1. Dr. Locke’s recommendations can be found at https://www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/545/Board-of-Health

Members of the Board of Health were able to ask questions, get clarification and suggest some changes to Locke’s recommendations. Motions were made and passed to adopt the following recommendations:

- Recreation: Outdoor recreation involving fewer than five people outside your household excluding all overnight camping.
- Gatherings: Gather with no more than five people outside your household once per week, masking encouraged if social distancing cannot be maintained. Visitors from high prevalence areas strongly discouraged.
- Travel: Essential travel and limited non-essential travel for Phase 2 permissible activities. Out-of-area tourism strongly discouraged (ferry signage, advertising, local government directives) until statewide Phase 2 implementation.
- Business/Employers: Manufacturing (non-essential repair, maritime industry, and others), additional construction phases, in-home domestic services (nannies, housecleaning, etc.) professional services/office-based business (non-tourism oriented, telework strongly encouraged), pet grooming (local customers only), hair and nail salons/barbers (local customers only).

After some discussion specific to language, the Board agreed to change “local customers only” to “pre-existing customers.”

Another request was made to add opening the local drive-in movie theater to the variance request for area schools to use for graduation ceremonies. After reviewing the recommendations, the Board discussed agenda items for the next meeting set for Tuesday, May 19. Discussion about possibly mandating the use of facemasks and gloves and what might be done to support the local health care system are two items that were added to the agenda. A joint meeting of the City Council, Board of County Commissioners, PUD, the PT Port and Board of Health will convene at 5 p.m. on May 19.
Jefferson Chamber of Commerce offering free business workshops

A series of five workshops beginning on May 20 and running through June 14 have been scheduled by the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce and are available to all business owners free of charge. All classes will be presented on Zoom.

The workshops include:

- 1-Page Business Plan (May 20), a workshop designed to assist you in reimagining and reengineering your business to reopen.
- 1-Hour Website (May 26), a web design webinar for beginners with no experience in web design to help you create a simple 3-5 page website with relative ease.
- 1-Page Marketing Plan (June 2), to help you develop a fully integrated, practicable marketing plan that will fit your business, your budget and changes you may be making to reopen after your COVID-19 closure.
- Getting Social (Media) 101 (June 9), Helping you reach more people in an hour than in a month of one-on-one contact.
- Pivoting to a Sustainable Future (June 14), borrowing ideas from startups to determine where to go from here.

Chamber membership is not required to attend any of the workshops. For more information, log on to www.jeffcountychamber.org. To register and receive a Zoom code, email admin@jeffcountychamber.org.

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Olympic National Park partially reopens today

Two areas in the Olympic National Park are slated for reopening today. Lake Crescent and Sol Duc Road are two areas in the northern part of the park that will be reopened.

According to ONP Superintendent Sarah Creachbaum, state and federal directives would be followed. Face masks will be required in most places with enforcement plans still being considered.

The coastal beaches and the west side of the park will be the last areas to reopen, Creachbaum said.

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LINKS TO MORE INFORMATION:

- Jefferson County Public Health: https://co.jefferson.wa.us/1429/COVID-19
- Jefferson Co. Public Health Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jeffersoncountypublichealth/
- Jefferson County Gov Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/jeffcowagov/
- Washington Gov. Inslee’s webpage: https://www.governor.wa.us

REMINDER: The May 18 Board of County Commissioners meeting will be broadcast on KPTZ 91.9 or you can watch the meeting at www.co.jefferson.wa.us click on Videos of Meetings on the lower left side of the screen, click on Streaming Live.