

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
April 12, 2021
TOWN BUILDING

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. Present by remote roll call were Arne Soslow, M. D. (AS), John Schuler M.D. (JS) Susan Green (SG), Robert DeFrancesco DMD (RD) Chair, Julia Junghanns, (JJ) Director of Public Health, Ruth Mori MSN, RN (RM) Public Health Nurse/School Nurse Leader

JS: Motion to start the meeting. SG: Second. RD: Roll call to open the meeting: AS – yes, JS – yes, SG – yes, RD-yes

5:35 p.m. General business, approve minutes August 6, 2020, August 12, 2020 and March 29, 2021, approve bills if any, Update on draft revised Septic Regulations, Town email addresses

JS: Motion to accept the August 6, 2020 meeting minutes, second AS, roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. RD yes 4-0-0

5:40 Brian McNamara joined the meeting.

AS: Motion to accept the August 12, 2020 meeting minutes, second BM, roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

SG: Motion to accept the March 29, 2021 meeting minutes, second AS, roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

JS: Moved to approve the bills sent out for review this week. Second BM roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

JJ will send out the revised and existing septic regulations.

JJ will also look into teaching board members how to use town email.

5:47 p.m. Animal keeping hearing for permit to keep chickens – 31 Plain Road - owner D. Schofield

D. Schofield walked through his plans for a chicken coop. Trying to avoid social issues between chickens he wants to provide enough space for them. Will install an automatic timer so chickens can get out on their own at sunrise without making a lot of noise, at the suggestion of the neighbor who is 94' away from the coop. Plans to keep 6 hens, and no roosters. Will also provide double fencing, dug into the ground, to prevent predators. Will compost the waste at the rear of the property more than 150' away from neighbors.

BM: Motion to approve the permit application for keeping chickens submitted 3/28/21 by David Schofield, assuming he gets a waiver from his neighbor in the abutting property 94' away, he submits copies of all registered letters and the variance is approved from the Health Dept. for reducing the square footage from 40,000 to 30,000 sq. ft.. Second JS. roll call JS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

5:50 p.m. Animal keeping hearing for permit to keep chickens – 199 Oxbow Road – Owner Derek Pfeffer

D. Pfeffer walked through his plans for a chicken coop. Has support from all three abutters and verbal support from person to the right of their home. Neighbor from 201 Oxbow, Susan Wagner, she and her husband called in to our meeting to support the project. JJ has done site visits to see the property.

BM: Motion to approve the permit application for keeping chickens submitted 3/26/21 by D. Pfeffer, assuming the variance is approved from the BoH for the square footage from 1 acre to 2/3 rds of an acre. Second AS. roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

6:00 p.m. Animal keeping hearing for permit to keep chickens - 68 Moore Road – Owner Maxine Sharkey Giammo

She has no abutters within 150'. She sent JJ the return receipts from the neighbors. She has heard from neighbors saying that they are in support. No one has said they are opposed.

BM: Motion to approve the permit application for keeping chickens submitted 3/21/21 by M Giammo. Second AS. roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

6:15 p.m. Covid-19 Case report, Covid-19 related updates

RM presented the case report – as of April 2nd, there are 11 cases, April 9th, there were 15 cases. Primarily household transmission and seeing more younger people starting from preschool on up. Assisted livings have not reporting anyone being positive for COVID. In MA, there is a concern that there are breakthrough COVID cases, where elders are getting COVID. However, the numbers of people who have breakthrough COVID are not broken down by vaccine status – fully, partially or unvaccinated.

There are students testing positive from pooled and outside testing and did a lot of contact tracing on Sunday. Cases have appeared at Claypit Hill. It has been getting busier in all surrounding communities too. Pooled testing students are often asymptomatic. Those who are tested through other means, are having low grade symptoms. RM says she is not seeing hospitalizations.

AS asked whether there was a school policy sent out to parents about travel from Arthur Unobskey. This letter was sent out before Easter break. The Board will get a copy of the letter sent out. AS: Is there any concern about COVID from travel? JS: Asks about in-school transmission. RM is not seeing in school transmission. RM said parents haven't asked about the variants but she is hearing from her colleagues about B117 (British variant) and the State will be doing additional testing on variants. If there is a lot of B117, maybe the contact time might be 10 minutes instead of 15 for contact tracing.

6:28 p.m. 105 Plain Road- Definitive Subdivision Vote-Owner Tamposi Bros LLC, Engineer Vito Colonna of Sullivan & Connors

JJ said BoH will need to vote on this Definitive Subdivision which is a Conservation Cluster. Jake Tamposi, owner, spoke about the project. They are not submitting a septic plan at this point though Health Dept. (Darren M.) has overseen the soil testing. The septic design is straight forward because the soil percs well. The front lot is a historic site and the back lot is four single units which would have its own separate septic system apart from the front lot. It would be over 2000 gal/day with 16 bedrooms

across 4 units and it is under 9999 gallons, and therefore doesn't need a WW treatment plant. JJ said a drainage review was done. Peer reviewer for storm water said if the comments properly addressed like an enhanced catch basin, plan would be in compliance. Going to Planning Board and Conservation Commission later this week.

BM: Motion that we approve the Definitive Sub division Plan submitted to BoH on April 6, 2021, on 105 Plain Road. Second AS. roll call JS yes AS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

6:48 AS left the meeting.

6:48 p.m. Determine (1) BoH member to attend meetings related to PFAS

JJ: Need to nominate a BoH member to the working group to discuss the PFAS situation and remediation and to communicate with the BoH. It will be one to two meetings each week. SG volunteered to serve on the working group. JS asked about whether the larvicide containers no longer have PFAS. BM asked about why the difference between 70 ppt federal advisory vs. 20 ppt state standard?

RD: Motion to nominate Susan Green to be the working group member. Second BM; roll call JS yes SG yes. BM yes RD yes 5-0-0

JS asked about the pumping from the HS wastewater treatment plant. What is the cost vs. building a new system? He would like to know who is in charge of the decision and what is happening now.

Mark Klein, Executive Director of Human Relations Services is retiring. The associate director is taking on the role. JS asked if they will continue with the same services to the town.

7:04 p.m. Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting, if any None.

7:07 p.m. Public comment

None.

Next meeting May 3, 2021.

7:09 p.m. SG Motion to adjourn the meeting, second BM roll call JS yes SG yes. RD yes BM yes 4-0-0

7:09 p.m. Adjourned

Submitted by Board of Health member Susan Green
041221MINUTES
APPROVED 050321