

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
TOWN BUILDING
Apr 10, 2023

Minutes taken in June 2022 by Academic Public Health Corps member Empress Jones.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present in person were Dr. Robert DeFrancesco (RD), Dr. John Schuler (JS), Genevieve Anand (GA), Robert Carnes Eyre (RE), Julia Junghanns (JJ) Present on zoom was Arnold Soslow (AS) (6:35),

Guests joining via zoom Sherri Greenbaum (SG), Maxine Giammo (MG).

RD: Roll Call: JS - yes, RE - yes, GA - yes, **AS- yes** (6:35), RD - yes.

6:30 p.m. Public Comments

Sherre Greenbaum (SG) had come to the meeting to discuss the Opioid Settlement Funds that the town will be receiving. She discussed with the Board the specific guidelines that the funds can be used for and the large sums of money that are being distributed. She is aware that other towns are setting up committees with representatives from Youth Advocates, Community Nurses, Police, Fire and Schools. Julia (JJ) advised that this was to be a discussion item reviewed in her Director's Report. She is interested in what Wayland is doing. Once Town Meeting is over Jason Verhoosky (Director of Youth and Family Services) will be putting a presentation together for the Select Board and the discussions and planning will get started. There was mention of free narcan from the state and information in the Director's report, mention of other prevention/harm reduction methods that are becoming available.

6:35 p.m. Review MassDEP Model BoH Regulations for Private Wells, Guidance for BOH in Using the Model Regulation

Julia has distributed a set of Model BoH Regulations for private wells, provided by MassDEP. The current Well Regulations in use by the Health Department are quite old (1992) and will need to be updated. This is would be a very involved and lengthy process, but the State Model Regulations will assist us in the process, these model regs are very comprehensive. We do review and permit both potable (drinking) and irrigation wells through the health department. There is also a lot of talk at the state level that the model state regs may be mandated for all towns in the Commonwealth so we are in a holding pattern. The section regarding Potable (drinking wells) are very comprehensive and included a list of items the laboratory should be testing for in the water, this list has been updated to include PFAS testing. Of the approximate 200 wells in Wayland, only 20 are Potable Wells (drinking) and most of these are areas of town where town water may not be available. The recently updated state model regulations include requiring pfas testing for private wells. They are encouraging that the Health Department reach out to the homes using a Potable Well to advise/recommend them to test their water and be sure to include testing for PFAS. There was discussion about pfas testing and what that would mean if there are findings/potential liability and dep requirements. Town Counsel should be consulted as well as the Town

Manager. These Model Regulations will give the Board of Health a starting point for revising the Well Regulations, but a lot more discussion and research will be needed. From a cursory review it appears that there would be a lot of staff oversight on the local level for private wells under the model regulation. We do not currently have the staff/resources to handle the oversight outlined in the model regs. For PFAS, the current threshold for drinking water in Massachusetts is .20, however EPA is expected to lower it to .04 or something in that range which will trigger a lot more compliance problems. There are some filtration systems on the market but not sure about the level of treatment/thresholds being met, effectiveness, there are resources available for homeowners that we can put on the website. There was more discussion about the process for well permits, the model regulations; MWRA connection and other points; best practices, testing, how much water is being used.

JJ: Has anyone looked at the minutes? I'm trying to get the group that's helping us to make the recording style more summarized. There was a document that seemed to be recorded verbatim, but it's not as helpful in that style. RE: Should we approve those minutes? RD: Yes.

Minutes of January 23, 2023

Does anyone have any changes/modifications of the minutes? There are none.

RE: Motion to approve January 23, 2023 minutes. AS: Second. AS: Yes. JS: Yes. GA: Yes. RD: Yes. Approved 5-0 motion passes.

7:05 p.m. Animal Keeping Permit modification request – 68 Moore Road, owner Maxine Giammo (MG) request to add 7 chickens, next steps

RE: It sounds like a pretty good request. She's got a huge piece of property, hundreds of feet between abutters, and she wants to add 7 chickens.

Maxine Giammo joins via zoom.

MG: I am a potable well owner, and we have had our water tested ever since getting the mailing last year. I would love to see results from other potable well owners. It would be nice to have those testing results verified by the state. JS: Was it expensive? MG: It wasn't cheap, it was around 300 dollars for all of the testing. That was for basic testing, but for more advanced results, the price can go up to 1000. JJ: Thanks for reminding me that was mailing from the health department right? MG: Yes, it wasn't specifically for well owners, it was just a general mailing. AS: How is the back of your property sloped towards the river? MG: It's a **drumlin**, and it's on the downside. As a reference, it's a good sight for snapping turtles to lay their eggs on. JS: If you have small children, I would suggest you get everything tested. MG: We have, including PFAS. The level was pretty low, and after the full house filter it's only undetectable. I'm not confident in our testing, so I would love to see some state recognized testing companies, as well as options to send in our results.

JJ: MG wants to modify her permit to include 7 chickens. The permit was just from 2021, right? MG: Yes, I don't have chickens yet, but the chicken population rate can fluctuate pretty easily, and I want to increase the amount on my permit to account for that. JJ: The property does not have any abutters within the 150 feet. The coop is pretty far back on the property. The question is, in the case of a modification where there aren't any abutters affected, is this something that the board can just approve? We haven't

adopted any new regulations, but the formal process usually calls for a hearing, and notify all of the abutters. RE: Yes.

JS: Motion to modify Maxine Giammo's permit to add 7 chickens for a total of 15 chickens RE: Second. AS: Yes. JS: Yes. RE: Yes. GA: Yes. RD: Yes. Approved 5-0 motion passes.

7:15 p.m. Director's report; Updates: CoACC and other projects, Summer intern work on harmful algae blooms in Lake Cochituate, Update on amended scope of work from MDPH for CT/CI grant through the Public Health Regional Collaborative, "From Theory to Practice" Presentation and recording from Regional PHE staff on shared services, Opioid reimbursement money discussions, Update on MDPH Local Health Capacity Assessment meeting, Senior Clerk/and annual renewal permitting update, Work in OpenGov/Viewpoint/septic permit fee review, Public Health Nurse updates

JJ:I'm going through and highlight the different items in the report

- 1) We have updated plans for the COACC site planner review on the planning department website.
- 2) We're also reviewing septic design plans for a subdivision at 60 Shaw Drive
- 3) We were awarded a summer intern, so we are looking forward to having some help with the monitoring of Lake Cochituate. We've met with the State, the water quality committee as well as the city of Framingham/Natick on ideas and drafting protocols. We may be able to have some level of monitoring. JS: How do you manage? JJ: I think it's more how do you monitor, respond and react. That's what we're trying to figure out. It hasn't been easy because the state is very conservative and they haven't considered other ways of dealing with this. Even if this doesn't work out for this season, we will have someone checking and testing the lake every day.
- 4) We officially received an amended scope of work from the Mass. Department of Public Health for the contact tracing case investigation grant that we have. The state has modified the scope of the grant to be more with today's times (not just Covid and Contact tracing) We have hired an epidemiologist, a public health nurse, and a grant manager who also works for the other 6 towns in our collaborative. We will still cover infectious diseases and monitoring in the system called MAVEN. There is also work for those with expressed challenges, and a plan for mental health state training. The state will still want Covid cluster investigation oversight and management, and data analysis as we are able.
- 5) Theory to practice is a presentation put together by a number of regional grant staff all over the state. Some of it involves mental health guides, research on long Covid, naloxone purchasing programs and more. Our regional epidemiologist did a presentation of excellence, the powerpoint presentation and the recorded webinar will be available to the Board Members.
- 6) We started talking about the opioid settlement funds earlier. We've begun having more discussions, and the new town manager is looking at plans to have a presentation after town meetings. Michele is pursuing the free Narcan program that is being provided through the DPH. We'll be working on a plan for education and distribution of that. We will also be sitting in on a

webinar about the Capacity Assessment that the State is doing to analyze what municipalities are able to do and are currently doing at a local level.

- 7) Town staff have been working with the property manager of 74 Plain Road which is currently an abandoned property. We are making progress with its demolition and will continue until we have a demo permit.
- 8) We are preparing for our renewal permits which cover all our food permits, camps, septic installers and septic pumpers and more as we transition to using the permanent program OpenGov for all permits. We are also training our new senior clerk to use OpenGov and cross function on other health department functions. Department staff is presently working on learning to use OpenGov and are looking to improve our handouts and streamline our permitting processes for septic and building, and this includes making permit fees more clear. We will have a permit fee proposal for the Board in the next few of months or so depending on our workload. Staff is beginning to look at the Health Department fees; we want to make some changes to assist residents with more clear fees when we move our Septic and Building applications and fee payments over to the OpenGov Permitting system. We are hoping to modify fees to assist with the fees for soil testing based on what type of septic project they are looking to do.

Ended here

- 9) We are nearing the end of our supply of free covid tests, and were chosen to receive an additional 2 month supply and have notified residents where the testing kits are available for them to pick up. We are working on inventory planning for next fall's vaccine season and some vaccines have already been ordered. We are awaiting more information for Covid vaccine plans. Michele is working with HR regarding operating Mental Health First Aid Training for department heads and town leaders. The goal is to give leaders the tools they need to address the care of their teams in the workplace. We continue to work with Youth and Family Services, police, fire, and the town manager regarding a coordinated response for harm reduction and referral to treatment. Conversations started when Michelle was able to get an additional grant for the schools that is used to expand the behavioral health workforce in schools. This grant will allow us to create a new position for a Behavioral Health navigator and prevention communication strategist. We're also working on camps and updated documentation. I've already gone on our websites and reviewed and updated our camp applications and fees. We have a lot of different types of camps. The nurses worked to identify 8 of the 10 AEDs that needed to be replaced. Funding came from grants. Nurses are working with staff for CPR certification. Once staff are trained, there are plans to implement medical emergency protocols in our school buildings. GA: Could the Narcan training be included in that? JJ: That could happen. We haven't completely put together the plans just yet, but we'll talk about that. Nurses have been attending courses through BU regarding updates to the school health community of MA. There have also been other programs at our high schools and middle schools regarding substance use treatment and prevention, spinal injury prevention and more. They're also looking at how to provide support to students during field trips, including options like staggering trips to ensure proper staff are available. She's looking to

celebrate the end of Covid with the other nurses in May. RE: Is there an update in terms of school funding for the new school nurse position? JJ: I don't have an update on that.

10) JS: Are HRS services still going forward? JJ: The contract is coming up, but I believe that HRS is still doing that work.

11) RE: When's the next move on approval of the animal keeping regulations? JJ: We need to go through the information with the town counsel.

7:35 p.m. Wishing Dr. Soslow well

RE: How long have you been on the board? AS: Probably around 14 years. JJ: Thank you for all of your hard work. AS: I wish you all the best of luck.

7:40 p.m Topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting, if any

RE: Motion to adjourn. GA: Second. JS: Yes. GA: Yes. RE: Yes. RD: Yes. Approved 5-0 motion passes meeting adjourned.

041023 Minutes

Approved 091823