

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 9, 2018
Approved: October 23, 2018

BoH Members present: Libby Levison, Chair; Sharon McCarthy; Tom Philippou.

Attending: Ira Grossman, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (“NABH”); Alison Flynn, Board of Health (“BoH”) Clerk; Kara Minar, Select Board liaison; Jane Thomsen, Lovers Lane property owner.

Ms. Levison called meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion with Select Board liaison, Kara Minar, regarding possible collaboration with Select Board on diverse housing- Ms. Levison invited Ms. Minar to the meeting to discuss the Select Board Strategic Plan FY2019 goal of “Work with Planning Board and Board of Health to create opportunities for more diverse housing”. Ms. Minar indicated that while she was not clear of the exact background on the goal, she agreed to discuss with the Select Board and report back to the BoH. The group discussed requirements for Public Water Supplies (“PWS”) (any well which services more than 25 individuals). Ms. Minar shared her experiences with Hildreth House, Phase 2, and Ms. Levison explained issues with the PWSs at Foxglove Apartments and the future Craftsman Village. The BOH members explained that the BOH has the responsibility to review a site plan and determine whether it meets the criteria for a PWS, but as soon as that is established, it becomes the jurisdiction of DEP. Ms. Levison expressed the BOH's willingness to work with the Select Board to the full extent of the BOH's restricted ability, while still protecting public health.
- b. Discussion with Select Board liaison, Kara Minar, regarding BOH role in Master Plan recommendation for community education on tick-borne diseases- Ms. Levison asked for Ms. Minar's support in implementing this recommendation. Ms. Levison advised that the BOH is focusing on outreach, but has limited funds. She explained that the BOH's asked for financial support from the Conservation Commission, Harvard Conservation Trust, and Nashua River Watershed Association in order to fund the 2018 Tick Talk. Ms. Minar asked the BOH to gather more information about what funds will be needed for this year and report back to her. She also suggested the BOH consider preparing a BOH Master Plan to think about what will be needed going forward.
- c. Discussion regarding November and December meeting and hearing schedules- The BOH reviewed the November and December meeting schedules and upcoming deadlines to decide when meetings would be held. It was agreed that the meeting of 11/27/18 will be moved to 11/20/18, and one meeting will be held in December, on the 11th or 18th at 7 p.m., with hearings on the BOH bylaw amendments held at that time.

d. Update regarding All Boards Meeting- Ms. Levison advised that all pertinent issues were already covered in earlier discussions with Ms. Minar.

e. Discuss timelines: budget prep, warrant article prep- The members discussed the timeline provided at the All Boards Meeting and potential items that would have to be considered in the BOH budget. Mr. Grossman suggested that a PHEP Region 2 grant might assist with replacement of the BOH office laptop. Ms. Flynn will assist Ms. Levison in researching the grant application process.

The BOH members discussed whether they might want to support any warrant articles and agreed to revisit the discussion at a later meeting.

f. Discuss location of emergency preparedness supplies- The BOH members discussed the best location for the satellite phone considering the recent reorganization of the Land Use Office. It was agreed that the BOH members would rotate the satellite phone quarterly, allowing for the members to participate in the quarterly Region 2 PHEP testing. Ms. Flynn will bring the phone to the next meeting to be given to a BOH member.

g. Update from Health Agent & BoH Clerk-

- Ms. Flynn presented invoices for Ms. Levison, Mr. Philippou, and Ms. Flynn's registration for the Mass. Association of Health Boards Fall Certificate Program. An unanimous vote was received to submit the invoices for payment.
- Ms. Flynn advised that she completed the "Learn Title 5" online training.
- Ms. Flynn advised that an invitation to the MA Tick-borne Disease Symposium was received in the BOH office.
- Ms. Flynn advised that she obtained the Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) signs from the Emergency Preparation Trailer and is holding the signs in the Land Use office in preparation for the EDS Drill. The BOH members agreed that they do not need Ms. Flynn to attend the EDS drill.
- Mr. Grossman and Ms. Flynn advised that the Army sent the BOH copies of letters to homeowners and public water supply (PWS) owners who had recent PFOA testing. The letters reported that the tests results were all either non-detect for PFOAs or below the EPA levels below EPA Lifetime Health Advisory of 70 ppt.
- Mr. Grossman advised that the status of 28 Deerfoot Trail is being address by Town Counsel.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Continued condemnation hearing regarding Lovers Lane property- Mr. Grossman provided the BOH members with a photograph of the property taken the morning of the meeting. Ms. Thomsen presented the BOH members with a list of items she accomplished since the last discussion. The members agreed that her list demonstrated a lot of work has been done, and Ms. Thomsen assured the BOH that they can count on her to continue. Mr. Grossman advised that the property is still an attractive nuisance, and with several entry points allowing for rodents

to get in, breed, and possibly spread to neighbors' homes. Mr. Grossman stated that the next items to be addressed to avoid condemnation would be the rotting eaves, holes, and sills that are allowing for rodents and other animals to enter. Mr. Grossman said that as long as things are progressing, he does not see a need to condemn. Mr. Grossman confirmed that nothing would prohibit sale of the property or the ability to obtain building permits at this time. He also reiterated that all the items listed on his April 12, 2018 would need to be addressed before the house is reoccupied. Ms. Levison requested Thomsen e-mail the BOH office, on the first of each month, a written report of what she has accomplished and what she plans to do next. Ms. Thomsen agreed to do so and indicated that she plans to have lights on timers installed next. She will contact Ms. Flynn to advise when they have been installed, and Ms. Flynn will pass the message on to the Fire Chief. Ms. Thomsen assured the BOH members that the house continues to be unoccupied. Ms. Levison and Mr. Philippou also offered contact information for clean-out resources in the area.

b. Review radionuclides policy- Draft revisions to the existing radionuclides policy were reviewed. Mr. Philippou made the motion to accept the policy as revised; Ms. McCarthy seconded. The vote was unanimous.

c. Update from Transfer Station Committee- This discussion was tabled.

d. Continued discussion of synthetic turf, environmental and health impacts- Mr. Philippou suggested that the BOH might want to consider regulations which do not allow crumb rubber within town boundaries, a setback from Public Water Supplies for synthetic turf, and establishes a need for BOH approval of chemicals used for maintenance. Ms. McCarthy will reach out to the Pond Committee and Conservation Committee to see if they would support regulation of synthetic turf. Ms. Levison will do the same with local physicians. Mr. Philippou will continue to research medical literature regarding synthetic turfs effect on abrasions and other health issues.

e. Continued discussion regarding ticks- Ms. Levison reported that Erin Sintros at Hildreth Elementary drafted a letter about ticks to send to parents, including information about where to test ticks. Ms. Flynn reported that she received 20 of the CDC Tick Trail signs. Ms. Levison will contact Colleen Nigzus and Erin Sintros to ask whether the signs might be posted on school grounds. She also offered to contact the orchards who have pick-your-own, Fruitlands, and McCurdy Track. Ms. Levison also provided an update on efforts to obtain a Tick Talk speaker for the schools, including recent communication with Matthew Osborne of MDPH. Ms. Flynn will look to see if a video of Dr. Fox's presentation can be viewed online.

f. Continued discussion regarding possible regulation of vaping in public spaces- This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

g. Update regarding trash hauler correspondence- Ms. Flynn advised that her most recent letter to the haulers was sent on October 3, 2018, and asked how the Board Members would like to handle follow-up. Mr. Philippou and Ms. Levison agreed that full compliance will be addressed at the time of permitting renewal. Ms. Levison reported that the hauler who recently had a spill

on Turner Lane was Harvey. She reported that DEP had to be called in for cleanup as the truck was unmarked.

h. Review Action Items- the action items from the last meeting were reviewed.

PERMITS-

- It was agreed that a town-wide mailing for stable permits would not be needed this year. Ms. Flynn will send a reminder e-mail to all permitted residents at renewal time.
- 168 Bolton Road- a septic permit for an upgrade was signed.
- 202 Littleton Road- The BOH members considered the variances requested in the letter of 7/16/18 from David E. Ross Associates, Inc., for Plan L13578. Mr. Philippou made the motion to accept the variances as listed in the same, and issue the permit; Ms. Levison seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- 99 South Shaker- The BOH members considered the variances requested in the letter of September 12, 2018 from Civil Solutions for Plan 18-040PI. Ms. Levison made the motion to accept the variances as listed in the same, and issue the permit. Mr. Philippou seconded. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Mr. Philippou made the motion to approve the draft minutes of 9/25/18, as amended; Ms. Levison seconded. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT- Ms. Levison moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m.; Mr. Philippou seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Flynn, Clerk

Documents Referenced:

- Agenda
- Select Board Strategic Plan- FY2019 Summary
- Select Board Strategic Plan- FY2019
- BOH Events and Upcoming Deadlines spreadsheet
- FY2019 BOH Expense Budget Request Form
- Budget Calendar for FY20
- Draft radionuclide policy
- Flow Chart for Gross Alpha Particle Activity Monitoring
- "Streets" file for Ms. Thomsen's property at Lovers Lane
- Septic permit application for 168 Bolton Road
- Septic permit application and SDS plan for 99 South Shaker

- Septic permit application and SDS plan for 202 Littleton Road.
- Draft minutes of 9/25/18