

**Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**July 12, 2022**  
**Approved: August 16, 2022**

*Board of Health Members present:* Libby Levison; Sharon McCarthy; Chris Mitchell, Chair.

*Others Attending:* Alison Flynn, Board of Health (BOH) Administrative Assistant; Ira Grossman, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (NABH).

*Ms. Levison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Flynn read aloud an abbreviated meeting preamble.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Elect Board Chair**

Ms. McCarthy made the motion to nominate Mr. Mitchell as Board Chair; Ms. Levison seconded. Mr. Mitchell agreed to serve as Chair. Ms. Levison and Ms. McCarthy were in favor; Mr. Mitchell abstained.

**Discuss Board of Health (BOH) liaisons for FY23**

The Members reviewed and revised the list of BOH liaison roles.

**Discuss compliance with tight tank approval requirements**

Mr. Grossman advised that after reviewing the files and identifying to the best of his ability the properties in Harvard which are served by tight tanks, he contacted each property owner to request pumping records and a service contractor consistent with recent BOH discussions. He advised that a few property owners have replied that they use the property infrequently or seasonally and suggested that requiring quarterly pumping records might not be appropriate in those situations. The Members agreed that in circumstances where a property is not used on a year-round basis a contract which reflects pump out as needed and confirmation of a working alarm at pump out is sufficient. Ms. Flynn and Mr. Grossman will respond accordingly to those property owners which expressed part-time use of the property.

**Review FY23 budget appropriation**

The BOH Members reviewed the FY23 appropriation in comparison with the FY23 requested budget. Ms. Flynn confirmed that the appropriation for Nashoba Associated Boards of Health was correct because it was adjusted down based on the population recalculation after the BOH budget request was submitted. Ms. Levison noted that the actual invoice for Minuteman Nursing will be less than appropriated because Minuteman's recalculation was less than the BOH budget request.

**Update from Land Use Boards (LUB) Meeting (7/12/22)**

Mr. Grossman reported that the LUB meeting included discussions regarding the Building

Commissioner and Conservation Agent's efforts to ensure Pine Hill Village's compliance with its Comprehensive Permit conditions. He indicated that he will follow-up with Craftsman Village Harvard regarding the first water quality testing due in July.

### **Review COVID-19 Current Status**

Ms. Levison stated that she has not yet received the weekly report from NABH. Ms. Levison noted that prior COVID infection is not providing immunity to the new variant. Mr. Grossman added that the new variant is the most contagious yet

### **Update from DPH Interagency Local Boards of Health (LBOH) Webinar**

Ms. Levison reported on discussions of the most recent webinar including that most of MA is at moderate drought risk, and they are expecting conditions to worsen; LBOH's were asked to please alert the EEA if they learn a well has gone dry. Ms. Levison also reported on the scaling back on COVID dashboard reporting, but that wastewater data will be added. Ms. Levison stated that the new census data will not be updated until 2023, but adjustments will be made in the interim; she will follow-up on her requests to exclude the prison population from Harvard's numbers. Ms. Levison also stated that they advised that monkey pox cases in MA are increasing, a COVID/Flu combination vaccine is not expected before Fall 2023, and a new Local Institute of Public Health training on hazardous algal blooms is available.

### **Clerk and Health Agent Update**

- Ms. Flynn asked the Members to consider payment of two Aquatic Analysts invoices each in the amount of \$205.00, for analysis of the Bare Hill Pond samples from 6/21/22 and 6/28/22. Ms. Levison made the motion to approve Invoices No. 20221 and 20222 from Aquatic Analysts for \$205 each one. Ms. McCarthy seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.
- Ms. Flynn asked the Members to consider the request for payment from Minuteman Services for FY23. Ms. Levison volunteered to contact Ms. Shedd to remind her of her recalculated appropriation for Harvard.
- Ms. Flynn asked the Members to consider reimbursement to Mr. Mitchell in the amount of \$529.30 for materials purchased at Lowes in preparation for assembly of the Bare Hill Pond water quality sign kiosk. Ms. Levison made the motion to reimburse Mr. Mitchell; Ms. McCarthy seconded. Ms. Levison and Ms. McCarthy were in favor; Mr. Mitchell abstained.
- Ms. Flynn asked the Members to consider reimbursement to Ms. Levison for her purchases of provisions for the volunteers working the COVID-19 test kit distribution event. Ms. McCarthy made a motion to reimburse Ms. Levison in the amount of \$49.76 for food for the volunteers at the test kit handout; Mr. Mitchell seconded. Ms. McCarthy and Mitchell were in favor; Ms. Levison abstained.
- Mr. Grossman updated the BOH on his status of sampling every two weeks and weekly monitoring the Town Beach for algae, including that approximately one foot of visibility was lost over the past week and the temperature is currently 74+ degrees.
- Mr. Grossman confirmed that he is not signing off on the building permit for 16A South Shaker Road until they provide the water quality results previously agreed upon.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Report from distribution of rapid, at-home COVID-19 test kits**

Ms. Levison reported that test kits were distributed to 140 cars with the remaining kits delivered for distribution to Town employees, on-call volunteers, and the Council on Aging. Ms. Levison stated the biggest challenge was not knowing how many cars were expected and indicated that she was happy with the choice to use the Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) for the distribution. Ms. Levison also reported that representatives from the Lions Club indicated they would be interested in assisting as volunteers, if needed, for future such events. Mr. Mitchell noted that the traffic flow worked well without use of the circle in front of the school, and that the pop-up tent could've been used for shade. Mr. Mitchell also stated that he heard feedback that not all residents were aware of the distribution event. Ms. Levison will circulate an After-Action Report, highlighting what did and didn't work, once completed.

### **Continued report from Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative Forum: Algae Control Methods (3/24/22)**

This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Consider waste hauler revisions**

This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Discuss piece for The Harvard Press regarding drought status**

Mr. Mitchell volunteered to prepare a News/Announcement for BOH e-subscribers regarding drought status and continue working on a Consider This piece for publication after The Harvard Press returns from vacation. Ms. Levison agreed to also post the drought announcement on NextDoor.

### **Update re status of Town Meeting warrant article for non-criminal disposition bylaw and discuss when ticketing is required**

This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

### **Update re kiosk for beach water quality sign**

Mr. Mitchell stated he has purchased the materials, designed the kiosk, and is in the process of building it.

### **Continued discussion regarding BOH interest in goals of the Climate Action Plan**

Ms. McCarthy stated that she is expecting to hear more about the Plan after July 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Levison expressed frustration that the full document has not been provided to the BOH; Ms. McCarthy and Mr. Mitchell agreed and indicated that the BOH can only provide comments on what is provided.

### **PFAS update, including but not limited to continued discussion re MassDEP Private Well PFAS testing program**

Ms. Levison advised that Dan Sena proposed a bill amendment which would establish no-interest or low-interest loans for residents who require PFAS treatment equipment for their private wells. Ms. Levison also reported that she learned from Chris Rogers of the Bolton BOH that they are finding PFAS in locations they were not expecting and are in the process of revising their private well regulations accordingly. Ms. Levison also stated that Mr. Rogers indicated that transient Public Water Supplies are now required to test for PFAS. Ms. Levison volunteered to review the BOH PFAS webpage to identify any needed updates.

### **Review Action Items**

Mr. Mitchell confirmed that Ms. McCarthy does not need to send comments on the drought draft Consider This because he will re-write it based on the change in drought status.

### **PERMITS**

#### **Stable: 261 Old Littleton Road**

The Board Members considered the stable permit application for 261 Old Littleton Road. Mr. Grossman confirmed the BOH has not received complaints related to the property. Ms. Flynn confirmed that Ms. Allard did not have any concerns on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Ms. McCarthy made a motion to approve the stable permit for 261 Old Littleton Road; Ms. Levison seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

**Septic:** None.

### **MINUTES**

Ms. Flynn advised the Members that she is currently three sets of Minutes behind and will need to prioritize Minutes preparation over other assignments.

### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Items for the next agenda were discussed. Ms. Levison reminded the group that the BOH would meet only once, on the 16<sup>th</sup>, in August.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Levison made the motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.; Ms. McCarthy seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Alison Flynn, Clerk***

#### **Documents Referenced:**

- Agenda
- C. Mitchell's receipt from Lowes
- Aquatic Analysts invoices for the 6/21/22 and 6/26/22 Bare Hill Pond samples

- Action items from 6/28/22
- 2020 BOH liaison assignments
- FY23 submitted v. appropriated budget comparison chart
- HBOH letter to 38 Peninsula requesting pumping records and a tight tank service contract and 38 Peninsula's e-mailed response, with attachment
- 261 Old Littleton Road: Stable permit application