

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Zoom Meeting
December 12, 2022
Approved: January 9, 2023

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

Others Attending, including but not limited to: Alison Flynn, Board of Health Clerk; Jim Garreffii, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health; Rick Sicard, Fire Chief.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Ms. Flynn provided remote meeting instructions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Update from inventory of Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) trailer and discuss preparation of EAT request to PHEP Region 2

Ms. Levison and Mr. Mitchell reported on their recent inventory of the EDS trailer. They indicated that mice damaged several cloth items, and that some medicines and dry erase markers are no longer viable because the trailer which is uninsulated and stored outdoors. Ms. Levison indicated that additional time will need to be spent on cleanout and inventory when the temperature is not so cold. Mr. Mitchell stated that nothing should be stored in the trailer which is not in a mouse-proof container. Ms. Levison offered to write PHEP with an inventory of what was damaged and/or newly identified as a need, such as storage containers, to see if they are able to assist in obtaining the same. Mr. Mitchell will ask Mr. Cotting whether there is a storage locker available at the Ambulance Building to store temperature sensitive supplies, such as the First Aid bags. Mr. Mitchell also noted that the trailer should be moved 1-2x per year, and mice deterrents should be placed within the trailer.

Discuss opioid outreach ideas

Ms. Levison reported that she attended an opioid awareness program sponsored by the Stow Police Department and met Kristin Normandin, the new shared Jail Diversion Program officer, who will be working 16 hours/week in Harvard and 24 hours/week in Stow. She indicated that the program included presenters regarding recovery efforts and hands-on training using Narcan. Ms. Levison stated that Ms. Normandin agreed to look into whether the same program could be run in Harvard. Mr. Garreffii indicated that Ms. Montgomery, of NABH, has worked with other Nashoba communities on issues of harm reduction and has assisted with getting mobile clinics up and running. He indicated that her e-mail asking if communities would be interested in using opioid settlement funds as a shared resource has gone mostly unanswered. The Board Members discussed that it would be important to have the input of the Schools and Ambulance Service, among other groups, into how the opioid settlement funds are used. Ms. Levison agreed to circle back to the group she initially contacted, including the Schools, Ambulance Service, both Chiefs,

to continue discussions of recommendations to the Town Administration of how the funds could be best used.

Prepare comments on draft LBOH Performance Standards (due to DPH by 12/30/22)

Mr. Mitchell agreed to prepare comments requesting advocacy for funding for adequate staffing of local boards of health to meet the performance standards once adopted.

COVID-19: Current status and update regarding distribution of PPE

Ms. Levison indicated that she e-mailed the Members a report of the latest case data and that Harvard's case count was less than 5 for the fifth week in a row. Ms. Levison indicated that the percent positivity for Worcester County and the State is trending up; DPH thinks this is due to the cold driving people indoors and gatherings at Thanksgiving. Ms. Levison indicated that she gave two boxes of the older surgical masks, as well as just-received KN95s with headbands, to the library and COA and has the remaining one box at her house.

Update from recent DPH Interagency Local Boards of Health Webinar(s)

Ms. McCarthy stated that a portion of the webinar was devoted to discussion of the development of the Local Boards of Health Performance Standards. Mr. Garreffii explained that in developing the standards they are trying to put in one place all the laws that LBOH are expected to uphold. He indicated that the State previously put out a manual in 2010; he agreed to circulate the 2010 manual to the group with the caveat that some of the information is outdated.

Clerk & Health Agent Update

- Ms. Flynn asked the Board Members to consider approval of payment of NABH Invoice No. 2023-309, in the amount of \$6,917.14, for FY23 3rd Quarter Nursing & Environmental Services. Ms. Levison made the motion to approve the invoice; Ms. McCarthy seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss preparation of Annual Town Report

The BOH Members agreed to provide Ms. Levison with comments and updates for the 2022 Annual Town Report within a few days of Christmas. Ms. Levison will prepare the introduction, conclusion, and the section on algae. Ms. McCarthy will prepare a section on the climate initiative. Mr. Mitchell agreed to prepare comments on PFAS and drought. Ms. Levison will pull the 2023 goals from the budget narrative. Ms. Flynn will prepare the section on permits and reports received.

Consider revisions to Article I: Sanitation, including previously drafted tight tank regulation and sample long sewer line deed notification

The BOH Members reviewed comments to the Sanitation regulation. Mr. Garreffii will speak with Mr. Grossman about the purpose of the sections defining requirements for larger subsurface disposal systems and private wastewater collection systems, as well as the need for sections regarding tight tanks.

Ms. Flynn reminded the Board that this regulation, as well as others, will need to be revised in short order if the BOH intends to pursue the non-criminal disposition bylaw at Spring Town Meeting. Mr. Mitchell volunteered to contact the Select Board to see if they will be reintroducing the bylaw in the Spring.

(Ms. McCarthy exited the meeting at approximately 8:20 p.m.)

Status of satellite phone base station installation at the Bromfield School and Public Safety Building

Ms. Levison indicated that she left a follow-up voicemail for Mr. Woodsum.

Continued discussion regarding placement of additional textile recycling bins on municipal property

Ms. Levison indicated that she believes the best location would be the middle parking lot at the Hildreth House. She indicated that she wrote to Ms. Thompson for her thoughts on placing a bin at the new COA building, but has not heard back.

PFAS update, including but not limited to efforts to organize a showing/discussion of “Dark Waters”

Ms. Levison reported that she has heard back from People of Ayer Concerned About the Environment (PACE), RCAP Solutions, Health Foundations of MA are all interested in participating in the showing/discussion of Dark Waters. She indicated that PACE plans to host a showing to Ayer residents, possibly on a different date. Ms. Levison suggested the BOH consider inviting Sen. Jamie Eldridge and Rep. Dan Sena once she has confirmation that DEP will attend. Ms. Levison indicated that she has not yet investigated whether the showing and/or discussion can be held remotely if COVID rates are high. Ms. Levison agreed to reach out to Mr. Kilhart to see if he would be available to participate to address the municipal water supply.

Recycle Your Reusables: Continued discussion regarding financial support

Ms. Levison indicated that she has not had the opportunity to address this issue. Mr. Mitchell suggested the item be tabled for another meeting.

Drought: Continued discussion regarding next public outreach steps

Mr. Mitchell advised that he and Ms. McCarthy continue to work on the pieces for the Press and will have drafts to be considered prior to the next meeting.

Action Items

Action items were reviewed. Ms. Flynn agreed to send a list of any remaining items.

PERMITS

• Septic: Review those issued by the Health Agent from 11/29/22 through 12/12/22

Ms. Flynn advised the Members that since the meeting of November 29th, Mr. Garreffa issued permits for installation of tight tanks at each of the following properties previously discussed by the Board:

- 1) 39 Turner Lane; and
- 2) 206 Still River Road/2 Still River Depot Road.

- **Waste Haulers, including but not limited to consideration of issuance of permits to:**

- a. **Mitrano Removal Service LLC**

Ms. Flynn asked the Board Members to consider the completed application package of Mitrano Removal Service LLC for a limited permit to haul temporary roll-off dumpsters and single-material solid waste or recyclables.

Ms. Levison made a motion to approve the limited permit; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

- b. **Prime Disposal LLC**

Ms. Flynn asked the Board Members to consider the completed application package of Prime Disposal LLC.

Ms. Levison made a motion to approve the permit; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

Ms. Flynn agreed to review the regulation to identify whether accurate labeling of the waste hauler's name on waste receptacles is currently required.

MINUTES

The Members reviewed and revised the draft Minutes of 11/29/22. Ms. Levison made a motion to approve the Minutes of 11/29/22 as amended; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

DISCUSS ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Items for the next agenda were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Levison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Flynn, Clerk

Documents Referenced:

- Agenda

- Draft Minutes of 11/29/22
- Hauler permit application package for Prime Disposal
- Hauler permit application package for Mitrano Waste Removal
- BOH Submission to the 2021 Annual Town Report
- LBOH Performance Standards Draft & PowerPoint Presentation regarding the same
- NABH 3rd Quarter invoice;
- Ms. Levison's e-mail regarding the EDS inventory/EAT request;
- List of possible EAT request items (from Region 2);
- Draft Sanitation regulation revisions (includes comments of AF/JG/LL)