

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Approved: November 14, 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; Chris Ryan, Director of Community & Economic Development.

Ms. Levison called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss volunteer opportunities with Finnigan family (7:05)- Jessica Finnigan and her daughters attended the meeting to discuss their interest in possible internship or volunteer opportunities with the BOH. The BOH members gave a brief overview of the roles of the BOH and NABH, and suggested the family explore the BOH website and sign up for e-mail alerts. Mrs. Finnigan expressed the girls' particular interest in the subjects of tick and mosquito-borne disease and vaping. Her daughters explained that vaping is a problem in the schools. Ms. McCarthy explained that while the schools are not the BOH's jurisdiction, the BOH can offer support and outreach. One of Mrs. Finnigan's daughters indicated she would consider speaking to the School Committee or Administration. The BOH members suggested the Finnigans watch the online videos of Larry Dapsis's May 2018 Tick Talk, and recent documentary, exploring opportunities with the Medical Reserve Corps. Mrs. Finnigan's other daughter expressed concerns over use of synthetic turf in Harvard, and shared her negative experiences with playing on slippery, sand-filled turf that caused carpet-like burns and did not stand up over time.

b. Discuss possible BoH support to Bromfield re: education on vaping (Jessica Finnigan)- The BOH continued discussion with the Finnigans regarding support on vaping. Mrs. Finnigan explained her role on the Bromfield School Council and their concerns about vaping. The BOH members offered to obtain any printed materials on vaping from the MA Clearinghouse that could be made available.

c. Meet & Greet with Director of Community & Economic Development- Chris Ryan introduced himself to the Board and offered himself as a resource, as necessary. He indicated that he sees his supervisory role of Ms. Flynn to be administrative, with oversight of her timesheets and involvement in the formal review process. The BOH members and Mr. Ryan discussed that they expect to work together to address the question of how to support and increase diversified housing in Harvard.

d. 36 Lovers Lane: prepare comments to ZBA (hearing Nov. 14th)- The BOH members reviewed draft comments to the ZBA regarding the homeowners' application and proposed plan for an expanded garage. The members agreed that the plan appears to establish habitable space on the second floor, and requested clarification on the use of the space. The members expressed concern about the increase in size of the garage where it encroaches on the septic

system, and wanted to see an analysis from an engineer for a future septic replacement. The draft comments will be revised to reflect the same.

e. Consideration of including DEP Private Wells link to webpage- The members agreed that the DEP Private Wells webpage should be linked on the Harvard BOH site. The members decided to remove the US EPA "Be Well Informed" link.

f. Report from Oct. 9th MVP Meeting- Ms. McCarthy advised that a contract with a consultant should be signed shortly. She reported that the initial outreach meeting with the Fire and Police Chiefs, and Director of the Department of Public Works would be held on Thursday to identify critical areas that may be addressed by future grants. Ms. McCarthy also indicated that a second outreach meeting will be held with the orchardists, followed by two outreach meetings to the community.

g. Report from Libby Levison's meeting with Lucy Wallace- Ms. Levison reported on her meeting with Ms. Wallace to discuss options for including diversified housing in Harvard. Ms. Wallace raised the question of placing two cottages with one shared septic system on smaller lots. Ms. Levison suggested she attend a BoH meeting to discuss this and other options with Mr Grossman.

h. Report from Oct. 16th Land Use Boards Meeting- Ms. McCarthy and Mr. Grossman advised that the meeting included a long discussion of diversified housing, and that the Planning Board will review and provide comments on the BOH's draft marijuana regulation.

i. Report from Oct. 17th EDS drill/flu clinic- Mr. Grossman and Ms. McCarthy reported that the EDS drill was uneventful. Mr. Grossman advised that the turnout for the flu clinic was low and attributed it to the time.

f. Clerk & Health Agent Update-

- Ms. Flynn will respond to the Region 2 survey regarding scheduled training.
- The meeting on December 11th will be held at 7 p.m., and a meeting on December 18th at 2 p.m. will be only scheduled if necessary.
- Ms. Levison deputized Mr. Philippou to act as Chair from 11/2- 11/10/18, if necessary.
- Ms. Flynn reminded the BOH members to register for the Open Meeting Law training on 11/15/18, if they have not already done so.
- Ms. McCarthy advised that she plans to attend the MAHB Certificate Program in Marlborough on 11/17/18. Ms. Levison will sign the invoice for the registration fee.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Continued discussion regarding possible revision to tobacco regulation- It was decided that Ms. Flynn should incorporate Sections 4 through 8 from the Westford regulation on tobacco sales and use to the draft revised Harvard tobacco regulation, as applicable. Ms. McCarthy will work with her on this.

b. Continued review of draft marijuana regulation- It was decided that Ms. Flynn should incorporate Sections 4 through 8 from the Westford regulation on tobacco sales and use to the draft Harvard marijuana regulation, as applicable, after the Planning Board sends comments. Mr. Philippou will work with her on this. Once added, the BOH will review the revised draft,

including comments from the Planning Board, and comments from Mr. Grossman and Ms. Levison which were prepared for today's meeting.

c. Continued discussion regarding budget prep- The BOH members discussed the possibility of sponsoring a second talk per year. Suggested topics included emergency planning, vaping, and opioids. It was agreed that the members will discuss this further at the next meeting, including the preparation of a BOH long term plan.

d. Continued discussion of synthetic turf, environmental and health impacts- Ms. McCarthy reported regarding her conversation with the Bare Hill Pond Committee Chair regarding possible regulation of synthetic turf components. She will follow-up with the Concord BOH and Jim Garreffo, who worked with Littleton, on their regulation of synthetic turf.

e. Continued discussion regarding ticks- Ms. Levison reported that she heard back from Matt Osborne that his primary audience is 10- 14 year olds, and has not heard back from Dr. Fox regarding her follow-up e-mail. Ms. McCarthy indicated that she reviewed the online videos of Dr. Fox's interviews and would support continued follow-up with Dr. Fox. The BOH might encourage the Bromfield Schools Trust to support a talk with Dr. Fox. Ms. Levison will follow-up with Dr. Fox.

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

PERMITS

- 35 Tahanto Trail- A D-box permit was issued for this property.
- 130 Poor Farm- A D-box permit was issued for this property.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Philippou made the motion to approve the draft minutes of 10/9/18, as amended; Ms. Levison seconded. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT- Ms. Levison moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.; Mr. Philippou seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Flynn, Clerk

Documents Referenced:

- Agenda
- Ms. Levison's e-mail regarding Dr. Hill's "Marijuana, Vaping, and Our Youth" talk
- "Streets" file for 36 Lovers Lane, with draft comments to ZBA
- Septic permit application and SDS plan for 35 Tahanto Trail
- Septic permit application and SDS plan for 130 Poor Farm Road
- Town of Westford, Tobacco Regulations
- Draft minutes of 10/9/18