

**Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 10, 2020**  
**Approved: November 24, 2020**

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

*Attending (including but not limited to):* Ira Grossman, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health ("NABH"); Alison Flynn, Clerk, Harvard Board of Health ("BOH"); Rick Sicard, Fire Chief; Pat Natoli, CERT Director; Joan Eliyesil, The Harvard Press.

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

Ms. Flynn read aloud the Remote Meeting Preamble.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** There was no public comment.

*Ms. Levison suggested the EDS items be taken out of order so Chief Sicard and Ms. Natoli do not need wait; Mr. Mitchell agreed.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. 308 Stow Road: Discussion regarding Title 5 Inspection complaint- Mr. Grossman provided the BOH members with an overview of the resident's complaint regarding the performance of his Title 5 Inspection, sent in its entirety to the BOH members prior to the meeting. Mr. Grossman also stated that the resident also provided a video which could be forwarded, if necessary. He indicated that a Title 5 Inspector uses best professional judgement in determining whether a component has failed, and that the resident's complaint is based on observations of different conditions by the Inspector/Installer who replaced the distribution box. Mr. Grossman noted that the pitting and swelling found by the initial Inspector would necessitate replacement, however, the homeowner and Installer/Inspector observed sufficient liquid present upon replacement of the distribution box, something the initial Inspector indicated was only a small amount. Mr. Grossman does not feel there is enough evidence to clearly suggest that the initial Inspector made false representations, and with the replacement already complete, there is no actionable item before the Board other than to advise the inspector that a complaint was lodged. The BOH members agreed that the septic company should be advised of the complaint and discussed ways to inform residents that they should seek second or third opinions for inspections, if needed, and contact the BOH with questions prior to replacement. Ms. Levison suggested the BOH prepare an article for The Press; Ms. McCarthy suggested a guidance document for Harvard home buyers and sellers regarding septic and water quality requirements at the time of sale. Mr. Grossman and Ms. Flynn will review the BOH website to identify whether additional resources are needed.

b. Initial discussion re FY22 Budget- The BOH members reviewed FY21's line item submissions and discussed which items will be included in the FY22 budget request. Ms. Von Loesecke's e-mail regarding how the BOH should pursue funding for cyanobacteria testing was also discussed. Mr. Grossman reported that he reached out to Mr. Bailey at DPH regarding budgeting for testing and hopes he will hear back before the next BOH meeting. Ms. Levison will continue to draft the budget spreadsheet and narrative to be reviewed at the next meeting.

c. Update from Land Use Boards Meeting (11/10/20)- Ms. McCarthy and Mr. Grossman reported on their attendance at the Land Use Boards meeting. The status of Craftsman Village and Pine Hill Village were discussed, as well as addressing building permit review process loopholes in View Point. Mr. Grossman indicated that new Building Inspector, Jeff Hayes, is a welcome addition to the group.

d. 36 Bolton Road: Consider Local Upgrade Approval requests- As the requesting engineer did not join the meeting, the discussion was tabled.

e. Consider location for satellite phone base at Emergency Dispensing Site- Ms. Levison volunteered to meet with Mr. Woodsum after a location for the satellite phone base at Bromfield has been decided. Mr. Grossman suggested a new location for the Command Center) instead of the Administration Office) be discussed at the drive-thru set up meeting. Ms. Natoli advised that she has one set of BOH's uninstalled satellite phone cables, antennae, and a rack at the Public Safety Building. Chief Sicard agreed that a primary satellite phone base be installed at the EDS, with a backup at the Public Safety Building, would reflect quality locations. Ms. Flynn will contact Mr. Woodsum to identify the cost of install at each location, and inform him that a decision regarding the location of the base at Bromfield will be decided in December.

f. Consider Board of Health Meeting schedule changes- Mr. Mitchell advised that his pre-existing commitment on Tuesdays is expected to last December through March. The BOH members agreed to move BOH meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays beginning in December, and to next discuss moving back to Tuesdays at the end of March.

g. Consider attendance at NGWA Virtual Groundwater and Public Health Symposium (12/7/20)- Mr. Mitchell volunteered to review the program and make a recommendation whether it would be worthwhile for the members to attend the symposium.

h. Update from Deer Management Subcommittee: Minutes review- This discussion was tabled.

i. Update from recent DPH COVID-19 Conference Calls & enforcement of new and revised orders issued by Governor Baker- The members discussed the new orders effecting gatherings and events. Ms. McCarthy volunteered to prepare letters to Harvard event venues and houses of worship advising them of the same. Ms. McCarthy will also prepare a letter to St. Benedict's Center regarding the recent complaint alleging lack of mask wearing and social distancing during mass.

j. Update from the Emergency Response Team- Ms. Levison and Mr. Grossman reported there were no updates from the ERT.

k. Clerk and Health Agent Update-

- Ms. Flynn requested approval of an invoice from the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards for the BOH's annual membership. Ms. Levison made a motion to pay the invoice for \$150; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.
- Ms. Flynn asked the members to consider draft revisions to the 10-day emergency beaver and muskrat permit application, as well as a draft property owner consent form to

be used in the event that the property owner is not the applicant. The members approved both forms and agreed Ms. Flynn should add them to the BOH webpage.

- Mr. Grossman did not have any updates.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

a. Continued discussion re preparing for an outdoor Emergency Dispensing Site and equipment needed- The BOH members agreed to table this discussion until after the drive-thru EDS meeting in December.

b. Update on algal bloom testing and future planning- Mr. Grossman indicated his draft document regarding testing protocols merges risk levels found in the DPH guidelines, as well as those from Australia, Connecticut, and a few other resources. Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Levison agreed to review the draft document and send Mr. Grossman comments.

c. Review Action Items- Action items were reviewed. Ms. Levison and Mr. Mitchell stated they plan to attend the Devens Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting on November 15th.

## **PERMITS**

- 36 Bolton Road- this permit was not decided as the engineer did not join the meeting.
- 45 Pine Ridge Drive- Mr. Grossman indicated the application was for re-permitting of a septic upgrade previously approved and since expired. Mr. Mitchell made the motion to approve the permit as submitted; Ms. Levison seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.
- 19 South Shaker Road- Ms. Levison made the motion to approve permit as shown on Plan L-14015, granting the variances as requested; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.
- Lot C Old Shirley Road- Mr. Grossman indicated the application was for re-permitting of a new system in full compliance, previously approved and since expired. Mr. Mitchell made the motion to approve the permit as shown in Plan L-14100, revised 10/30/20; Ms. Levison seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.
- 161 Bolton Road- Ms. Levison made the motion to grant the stable permit based on the revised manure management plan which describes the stable's composting process; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call.

## **MINUTES**

The BOH members reviewed and revised the draft Minutes of October 27, 2020. Ms. Levison made the motion to accept the minutes as amended; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA-** Items for the next agenda were discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**- Mr. Mitchell made the motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.; Ms. Levison seconded. All members were in favor by roll call vote.

***Respectfully submitted,***

***Alison Flynn, Clerk***

**Documents Referenced:**

- Agenda
- Draft minutes of 10/27/20
- 19 South Shaker Road: Proposed plan, variance request letter, local upgrade conditions form, and unsigned permit
- 45 Pine Ridge Road: Proposed plan and unsigned permit
- Lot C Old Shirley Road: Proposed plan, variance request letter, local upgrade conditions form, and unsigned permit
- E-mail of 11/4/20 from Alice von Loesecke to Sharon McCarthy & the BOH re: Budget Question
- FY21 budget line items