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Board of Health Meeting Minutes January 14, 2015

The January 14, 2015 meeting of the Belmont Board of Health was called to order at 5:30 pm by Donna S. David, R.N., M.N., Chair.

Those present were Donna S. David, R.N., M.N., Chair; David B. Alper, D.P.M., Vice Chair; Angela Braun, R.S., Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk.

Robert Upton, Jr., Belmont's new Veterans' Services Officer, was introduced to the Board members. Bob provided a brief overview of his past job experiences. Board members offered a number of suggestions to Bob relating to his new position with the Town.

The November 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

The Financial Report was reviewed.

The Hearing relating to the housing issue at 49 Gilbert Road was called to order at 5:45 pm. Rickland Powell, property owner, and Harold Gorach, Attorney for Mr. Powell, were present for the Hearing. Angela Braun, R.S., Director, explained that a comprehensive inspection was conducted at 49 Gilbert Road pursuant to the request of the tenant. Mr. Gorach had several questions regarding the Order, as a result of the comprehensive inspection performed by Ms. Braun. Mr. Powell and Mr. Gorach also offered details concerning dates and methods of repairs to be done. The Hearing concluded at 6:05 pm.

The Directors report was discussed. Angela told Board Members that 25 resumés for the Assistant Director position were received. She also spoke about an Ebola Table Top, staff assignments (Janet Amdur and David Neylon) for completing applications relating to a smoke free housing grant, the Wayside grant, and the CHNA grant.

Dr. Alper provided an Underwood Pool update, reporting that no underwater bench will be constructed. Also, the Architect will provide a revised plan design for a slide.

Board members spoke with Janet Amdur regarding the visibility of the Youth and Family Services Coordinator position. They said the position needs more community based participation, less clinical. Janet added there are few services available for people seeking help, so short-term triage becomes a challenge. The Board said that short term triage must be the goal. Angela said that Janet would be the lead for the Wayside grant application. Dr. Alper expressed his excitement about the Girls Group Meetings, and will bring it to the attention of religious leaders. Dr. Alper and Janet will meet about the adult mental health grant to discuss best use of the anticipated funds. Speakers want money for presentations, and it was suggested that local business be reached for sponsorship.

David Kane, Recreation Commission Chair, and John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer spoke with Board Members about the Off Leash Permit program. John Maguranis began by expressing that this is a great program for all residents and pets in the community because exercised dogs relax at home and are less aggressive in the community. John explained the steps taken to assess

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the dog, and the rules reviewed with each dog owner. Mr. Kane told Board Members the cost of a permit is \$40, \$30 for each additional permit. Dr. Alper felt that permitting should be issued through the Health Department, and policy developed. Dr. Alper supported the "colored-collar" idea, which would allow the ACO ease in determining permitted pets. Dr. Alper asked about a dedicated park for the program, as many people are afraid of dogs. Mr. Kane was not sure which park would be chosen to be off the program. Board Members suggested a disclaimer be added on the permit application, indicating that permit applicants are liable for their dogs. Board members felt the program should be limited to Belmont residents. By a unanimous vote, The Off Leash Permit Program was approved for one year.

An outside consultant will be hired to provide restaurant inspections.

The Animal Control Officer report was reviewed.

The Disease report was reviewed.

The next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

The Board of Health Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna S. David, R.N., M. N., Chair