

2017 APR -5 PM 2: 25

Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
February 15, 2017

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by David B. Alper, D.P.M., Chair.

Those present were David B. Alper, D.P.M., Chair; Donna S. David, R.N., M.N., Vice Chair; Julie C. Lemay, M.P.H., Member; Angela Braun, R.S., Director; Wesley Chin, M.P.H., Assistant Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk.  
See Sign-in sheet for names of public attendees.

Dr. Alper welcomed representatives of the proposed project to keep chickens at Rock Meadow, and thanked the group for providing a written proposal of the project. Discussion points included:

- Meat chickens and laying chickens were kept at Rock Meadow last year.
- Dr. Alper said only the keeping of meat chickens was approved by the Board of Health last year. It's important the Board of Health be made aware of any changes.
- The keeping of laying chickens proposal has been approved by the Conservation Commission.
- A question was asked about the number of eggs laid per day, and if there is a plan if excess eggs are laid. There are approximately 4 eggs per day, shared among the representatives. Any excess eggs will not be sold.
- Is there a concern about predators? There have been no past issues with predators. The cages are protected and representatives check on the chickens at least twice per day.
- Are other gardeners agreeable to this project? There was a gardener concerned about the keeping of meat chickens last year.
- Where are the laying chickens kept for the winter? A friend of one of the representatives agreed to keep the chickens at their country home.
- Conservation Commission meeting minutes referenced use of a barn for the keeping of animals. Are there plans to evolve this project into something much larger? No, that type of project is too large for this group.
- Why was the garden plot use changed? Isn't there a waiting list for plots at Rock Meadow? The plot used for the chickens is very shady, which is good for keeping of chickens, not ideal for growing vegetables.
- The chickens will be kept at Rock Meadow from April through October.
- Is there a contact person for emergencies/complaints? The Animal Control Officer cannot be the primary contact for all situations. A representative's phone number will be posted and provided to Town Departments (Health, Animal Control Officer, Belmont Police Department, etc.).
- Ms. Braun had a conversation with John Maguranis, Animal Care and Control Officer, and he fully supports the project, but wants to conduct the inspections, and check the protective netting.

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- The Board agreed to allow the keeping of 10 chickens, pending further input from John Maguranis. A yearly Permit must be applied for. The Board must be provided notice of any long range plans, and/or changes to current plans. There may be a request for the keeping of sheep/goats in the near future.

The January 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes were approved by a vote of 3-0.

There was a brief discussion about Belmont's Opioid Needs Assessment, authored by Jill Block, Consultant for the grant opportunity provided by Mt. Auburn Hospital Community Health. Will the Town fund a dedicated person for this epidemic? Is it a high priority for Belmont residents? Should the Town consider hiring someone? If so, would that person be under Belmont Police Department, or report to the Selectmen? Health Department continues to do the best they can with limited resources. Jill's report is forthcoming and should be presented to Board of Selectmen.

The Director's report was reviewed with the following topics discussed:

- The Cushing Village meeting held January 24<sup>th</sup>, and attended by Julie, Angela and Wesley, was a valuable meeting. It is important to continue open communications with Toll Brothers. An informational website would also be helpful.
- Public records requests have increased in number, and the requests are more time consuming since the new law (Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2016) went into effect January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Health Department received a complaint about a Chenery Middle School office area with possible mold. The MA Department of Public Health's Bureau of Environmental Health has been contacted and will assess the alleged mold issue on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Flett Road auto painting shop complaints continue. It was suggested to ask the auto shop owner to check wind direction prior to beginning the painting process that emits the nuisance odor.

The Assistant Director's report was reviewed with the following topics discussed:

- A & R Market has an overhead light which is leaking an unknown substance. Wesley will recheck this next week.
- Shine's was re-inspected this date concerning deviance from the original HACCP plan submitted. The owner did not purchase a new pH meter, and is using pH test strips for sushi rice testing instead. If the owner continues to use this procedure for sushi rice testing, he will be required to submit a revised plan for review and approval by Health Department staff.
- El Centro was also re-inspected this date. Board members want the owner of El Centro present at the March 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Health Meeting for a hearing.
- The bookstore to be located in the Foodie's Market building will be submitting plans.

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*\*Note, Maria Reddington, Clerk, was excused from the Meeting at 6:45 pm. Angela Braun, Health Director, and Wesley Chin, Assistant Health Director, resumed writing the meeting minutes for the Regular Public Meeting, and Public Forum Discussion of Keeping of Honeybees.*

The Disease Report was reviewed. Dr. Alper inquired about the vibrio case. Angela said the case was not related to food poisoning, it was a result of normal testing, found in the ear of an adolescent.

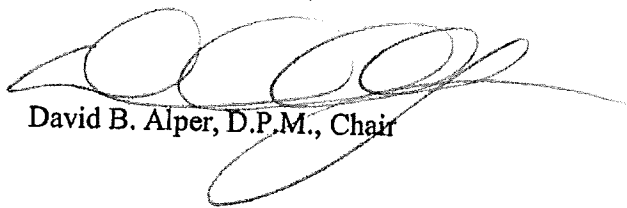
The Animal Control Report was reviewed. Board members reviewed the updated report concerning canine "Louie" Russo. No further action to be taken for "Louie" Russo or "Bassanio" Bradley. Both dogs to remain on muzzle order.

Dr. Alper has attended two MA Association of Health Board meetings. He has been nominated to the executive committee and will serve as treasurer.

The next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2017 at 5:30 pm, and April 27, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

The Regular Public Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



David B. Alper, D.P.M., Chair