

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2018

2018 MAR 29 AM 8:45

The Board of Health Meeting 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; Julie C. Lemay, M.P.H., Vice Chair; David B. Alper, D.P.M., Member; Wesley B. Chin, Health Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk.

Board members welcomed Ms. Natasha Waden, Arlington Health Director. Natasha provided a brief overview of the Sealer of Weights and Measures job share with the Town of Belmont since 2011. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- Arlington has proposed a cost share increase to Belmont beginning in fiscal year 2019.
- The proposed increase is a result of the Town of Arlington's analysis of the cost to provide the service to Belmont establishments.
- A comparison of fees charged by surrounding communities was also considered.
- Board members asked Natasha a number of questions concerning the cost analysis report provided.
- Board members asked Natasha to provide further data relating to the number of site visits and administrative hours dedicated for Belmont establishments.

Board members welcomed Ms. Patrice Garvin, Belmont Town Administrator. Ms. Garvin told the Board it has been her goal to introduce herself to each Board and Committee, and to share her open door policy. The Board thanked Ms. Garvin for coming to the Meeting.

The discussion concerning the Permit for Keeping of Chickens at Rock Meadow began with an overview of the project presented by Ms. Joan Teebagy:

- Ms. Teebagy is part of a group of seven members, known as the Chicken Tenders.
- The Group shares the care duties for the chickens, and adhere to a schedule for their care.
- Emergency phone numbers are posted. No emergency matters will be forwarded to ACO John Maguranis.
- The Conservation Commission approved the request to keep chickens at Rock Meadow.
- The Group has made a request to increase the number of chickens to 16. John Maguranis supports the request to keep 16 chickens at Rock Meadow because there is plenty of room, and the Group is well educated as to the proper care of the chickens.
- Ms. Teebagy is including 3 chickens from the Belmont Hill School.

The Board voted 3 – 0 to approve the request for the Keeping of Chickens at Rock Meadow (maximum number of chickens to be 16), upon receipt of an application and payment for a Keeping of Chickens Permit.

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The discussion concerning the Permit for the Keeping of Sheep/Goat at Rock Meadow began with an overview of the project presented by Ms. Joan Teebagy:

- Ms. Teebagy said this Permit request will likely be only for the Keeping of Sheep.
- Ms. Teebagy has an emergency plan in place, and a group of volunteers to help.
- Board members want a list of emergency phone numbers provided to Health Department Staff.
- ACO John Maguranis supports the request to keep sheep at Rock Meadow, as Ms. Teebagy is well educated to take care of the sheep. John also feels it is a valuable teaching tool for coyote education.
- Ms. Teebagy said the sheep are released in the day, then placed back to the pen for the night.
- The pen is cleaned, and fresh water is provided throughout the day.
- Ms. Teebagy has a Facebook blog dedicated to the keeping of sheep.

The Board voted 3 – 0 to approve the request for the Keeping of Sheep/Goats at Rock Meadow (maximum number of sheep is 6, goats is 2), upon receipt of an application and payment for a Keeping of Sheep/Goats Permit.

The Off Leash Permit program was discussed. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer reports the Program realized another successful year.
- Elissa Carreras and John Maguranis are conducting canine assessments together.
- Re-assessments are scheduled every two years.
- In 2017, two permits were revoked, one was reinstated, and 2 applicants were rejected.
- A copy of the completed assessment form is provided to the Recreation Department.
- Off Leash Permit rules are provided at the time of application.
- Payson Park needs to be monitored, as it is designated as a no dog park zone.

The Board voted 3-0 to approve the Off Leash Permit Program for 2018.

The Board voted 3 – 0 to enter into Executive Session at 6:18 pm to discuss a complaint against an employee.

The Board voted 3 – 0 to adjourn Executive Session, and return to Public Meeting at 6:26 pm.

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Board members welcomed Ms. Shunying Li, owner of Sweet Heart, regarding her request for variance of an external grease interceptor at 386 Trapelo Road. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- Board members were provided with specifications of the internal grease interceptor to be installed in the establishment, Sweet Heart, at 386 Trapelo Road.
- Ms. Li is not making ice cream at the establishment, and is not using cooking equipment or processes that would generate fats, oil, or grease to be discharged into the sanitary waste system.
- Ms. Li must adhere to a schedule for cleaning of the internal grease trap.

The Board voted 3-0 to approve the Application for variance of an External Grease Interceptor at Sweet Heart, 386 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA.

The Fee Schedule for 2018 was reviewed. The following changes to the schedule were requested by the Board:

- Add the following to the Fee Schedule, pertaining to Sharps Disposal/Containers:
Sharps Container/Disposal (Belmont residents only) FREE
- Delete first re-inspection fee \$50 and second re-inspection \$100. All food service re-inspection fees will be \$100.
- Tobacco Permit Fee is increased to \$200.

The Board voted 3-0 to approve the Fee Schedule as amended, effective March 1, 2018.

The Board voted 3-0 to approve the January 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Mr. Mark Carthy and Ms. Patricia McGarry spoke with the Board about a plastic bag reduction initiative, supported by the Board of Selectmen. The following is a summary of the discussion:

- The Committee is asking for Board of Health participation in the initiative as the enforcing agent for the Town.
- Enforcement can be taught by the Committee.
- Minimum plastic bag thickness of 4.0 mils will be required
- DPW Recycling Department should assist with enforcement, but doesn't have experience issuing non-criminal notices of violation.
- Dr. Alper spoke to the Town of Newton, and they indicated complaints of non-compliance are not voluminous.
- Board members said the Health Department is understaffed, and should not be named the enforcing agent. DPW Recycling Department should be contacted to act as enforcement.
- Ms. McGarry will research the possibility of a high school sustainability-type club to aid in compliance.

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The Keeping of Exotic, Non-Domestic and Farm Animals on Residential Property Regulation, as amended in Section 5, Paragraph D was approved and signed by the Board members.

There is a joint public meeting with Board of Health and DPW on March 15th to address the rodent concern in Belmont. Belmont Media Center should be asked to film the meeting for local broadcast.

The Receipts and Expenses reports were reviewed.

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

- Food reports, and improvements of 2 food establishments was discussed.
- Housing cases – most recent cases are non-senior residents. A brief update on some old cases was discussed.
- Budget and increase in Veterans' Services Officer position.

The Assistant Director's Report was reviewed. Board members were pleased to know Wesley and Daniella attended a public health conference on natural gas infrastructure.

The Disease and Nurse's reports were reviewed, noting the high number (53) of reported influenza cases.

The Youth and Family Services report was reviewed. Dr. Alper said a Boys and Girls Group is needed.

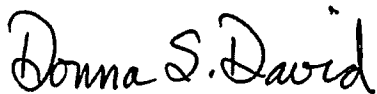
The Animal Control Officer's report was reviewed.

The Veterans' Services Officer's report was reviewed.

The next Board of Health Meetings are March 5, March 15, and March 26, 2018.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna S. David, Chair