

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017

2018 JAN 23 PM 2:04

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; Daniella Wodnicki, Assistant Health Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk.
Robert Upton, Veterans' Services Officer (part of the Meeting).

Ms. David welcomed Daniella Wodnicki, Assistant Health Director, to her first Board of Health meeting.

The Board welcomed Bob Upton, Veterans' Services Officer. The following is an overview of Bob's presentation:

- Bob's work hours have increased by 4 hours per week since 2015, effective in fiscal year 2017.
- Additional outreach to Belmont Veterans will require another increase in work hours. Outreach should include all Veterans and spouses.
- Bob is required to annually qualify and certify Belmont Veteran's receiving Chapter 115 benefits.
- Ms. David said she has seen Bob network, and he has a significant presence in Town.
- Ms. Lemay asked how many Veterans live in Belmont. Bob said 630 plus.
- Bob talked about his accomplishments, which include the Town being recognized as a Purple Heart Community, forming a monthly coffee hour at the Beech Street Center, US Flag Retirement Ceremony, working with Eagle Scout candidates to document Veteran gravesite locations using GIS technology.
- Future projects to include identifying all Belmont Purple Heart recipients and Belmont senior Veterans who may qualify for property tax abatement.
- There was a brief discussion about Belmont's non-compliant status in employing a full time Veterans' Services Officer. Belmont could consider meeting compliant status by joining a surrounding community and forming a "district."
- Board members encouraged Bob to highlight future goals for Board of Selectmen and Human Resources presentations.

The Veterans' Services report was reviewed.

Ms. Donna David recused herself from the meeting at 6:10 pm, prior to the start of the Hearing for the Keeping of Animals (Chickens) at Belmont Hill School.

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The Hearing for the Keeping of Animals (Chickens) at Belmont Hill School was called to order. Mr. Jack Weldon, a Belmont Hill School Student, and Dr. Elizabeth Davis, a Belmont Hill School Faculty Member, were present for the Hearing. The following information was presented for the Board's review:

- Mr. Weldon provided a history of the program known as the Farmers Club, made up of 15 members.
- Club members constructed a chicken coop. Chicken wire was built into the ground to protect against predators.
- Three chickens are being kept in the coop, but not laying eggs yet.
- Cleaning, feeding, and security assignments are rotated among Club members, and faculty/student boarders during school vacations.
- The chickens will board off-premise during the summer months.
- The Board voted 2-0 to approve a Permit for the Keeping of Animals (Chickens) at Belmont Hill School.

Ms. David returned to the Meeting at 6:35 pm.

The November 8, 2017 Board of Health Meeting Minutes were approved by a vote of 3-0.

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

- Kashish restaurant closure due to pest infestation.
- School cafeteria food inspections: A PIC is needed to enforce food safety. Board members want a food inspection conducted in early January.
- A review and status of current housing cases was discussed.
- Joey's Park rat problem was discussed. DPW should include a budget line item for rat control. Trash barrels were overflowing soon after the closure of the park, not all barrels were removed.
- Zaytoun Market will be scheduled for a Hearing at the January meeting for violation of Tobacco regulations. This is the third violation by this establishment within 2 years.
- The fiscal year 2019 budget process is well under way.
- Discussion about a memo from Ms. Christine Bongiorno, Town of Arlington, Director of Health and Human Services, concerning the Sealer of Weights and Measures position, and increase in cost for services provided to the Town of Belmont. Board members had a number of questions concerning the breakdown provided in Ms. Bongiorno's memo. Wesley will follow up with Ms. Bongiorno.
- There was a brief discussion of Mr. Igo's request to amend the Board of Health's Order dated November 21, 2017. Mr. Igo wants the Board to include language in the Order that "Olaf" Klimasmith cannot be off leash at any park. The Board members will not amend the Order.

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The Food report was reviewed.

The Disease and Nurse reports were reviewed.

The Youth and Family Services report was reviewed. Board members asked if the Hidden in Plain Sight video was shown on cable.

The Animal Control Officer report was reviewed. The Board had a question concerning the report of a dog that pulled away and bit another dog. They asked if a better harness could be used instead of a muzzle.

The Complaints packet was reviewed. Board members requested additional details of the complaint alleging contaminated soil being moved from one area of The Bradford project to another area. Wes said the LSP confirmed this was not contaminated soil.

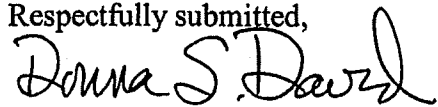
Dr. Alper shared information from a recent MA Health Board Meeting he attended. Some of the discussion points are listed below:

- Gas leaks in Massachusetts.
- The Town of Holliston decision to ban yoga studios from offering nude yoga sessions.
- The organization known as Weed Maps had attorney's present at the meeting who offered to draft language for municipal marijuana regulations.
- There would be several classes of marijuana licenses: One time use, such as for a wedding; On-site smoking room; Food, yoga, other establishments; Social consumption centers, such as a pub.
- There would be four types of marijuana licenses: Growers, Laboratories, Retailers, Producers
- Tax revenue realized from a marijuana establishment must be used for education.
- Not more than 12 marijuana licenses could be issued in any one town, can be a combination of license types.
- Marijuana regulations will be needed for all types of licenses.
- A Town must hold a special election to ban marijuana establishments.
- Marijuana regulation(s) should be drafted by the Board of Health.
- Belmont will likely have one marijuana establishment.

The next Board of Health Meetings are January 22, 2018 and February 26, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna S. David, Chair