

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
May 30, 2018

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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; Stephen M. Fiore, Esq., Member; Wesley B. Chin, Health Director; Maria Reddington, Clerk.

The request for a State Plumbing Code variance at the Russian School of Mathematics, 12 Church Street was discussed. Wesley Chin told the Board he spoke with Dan MacDonald, Plumbing Inspector and he supports the request.

The Board members voted 3-0 to approve the Plumbing Code Variance for the Russian School of Mathematics, 12 Church Street.

The April 25, 2018 Meeting Minutes were approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Receipts and Expenses reports were reviewed.

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

- Housing case #1, detailed in the report, is slow to progress.
- Housing case #2, is closed, with a referral to Janet Amdur, Youth and Family Services Coordinator.
- The Board of Health Honeybee Policy was discussed. Two complaints have been filed with Health Department staff due to next door occupants who suffer allergic reactions from bee stings. The Board asked Health Department staff to contact the State's bee experts concerning recommended bee hive placement from a property line, flight patterns, and other best management practices. The Board of Health is satisfied with the current Honeybee Policy in place.

Ms. Janet Wu, a Belmont resident and volunteer with Belmont Composts!, presented information at the Meeting about benefits realized from Black Earth Compost if Belmont Composts! can get 300 Belmont residents to sign up for curbside composting. Ms. Wu shared a 2015 New York City Organics Collection Report, which can be found here:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/downloads/pdf/studies-and-reports/OrganicsCollection-LL77-NYCOrganicsCollectionReport-2015.pdf>

Ms. Wu provided a comparison chart of four companies offering curbside composting services. Belmont Composts! favors the services of Black Earth Compost. Ms. Wu said the receptacle provided by Black Earth Compost is constructed of heavy plastic, with a locking lid. The Chenery School has started a composting pilot, using compostable serving trays. Black Earth Compost diverts food scraps from landfills. Board members are in favor of curbside compost pick up. There was an idea to include language in the rodent brochure to encourage residents to consider curbside pick-up of their compost.

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The Director's report review continued with the following topics discussed:

- Wesley Chin provided back ground information concerning natural gas infrastructure. Board members agreed to table the request to endorse a letter to Governor Baker concerning fracked gas infrastructure projects.
- Joey's Park has re-opened. Wesley said Health Department staff have not received any complaints concerning the carry-in, carry-out policy since the re-opening on May 4th.
- Wesley reports the neighbors on Leonard Street and Alexander Avenue are working together to stop rodent activity in their neighborhood.
- The Belmont High School Building Committee regulatory meeting was discussed. Wesley reported the athletic field irrigation system currently uses water from Clay Pit Pond. The Committee has proposed discontinuing this practice at the new high school. Board members agreed an alternate water source needs to be used for the new irrigation system. The water source should not be Clay Pit Pond.
- Wesley reported about sharps found in Clay Pit Pond, as reported by the Fire Department during their water rescue training. Does another sign need to be posted? Can the BHS Building Committee be sure to have more site lines at Clay Pit Pond, offering less privacy to individuals who may be incorrectly disposing of used sharps?
- The matter concerning asbestos reporting requirements for renovation projects was discussed. Board members are satisfied with the system in place, and stated it is consistent with the practice of surrounding towns.
- The job description for a Youth Services Coordinator was discussed. Wesley presented a copy of the job opening advertisement posted in 2006. Board members want the job advertisement to focus on finding a person who can connect with schools, PTA, and Belmont youth. Attendance at meetings and recording of meeting minutes should be placed at the end of the ad. Mr. Fiore asked how many years it has been since the Youth Commission was in place. The Commission was active from July 1999 to June 2006.

Board members welcomed Mr. D.J. Wilson, Attorney and Tobacco Control Director and Public Health Liaison at MA Municipal Association, and Ms. Natalie Miller, Tobacco Control Program Coordinator. D.J. and Natalie were available to answer questions concerning two proposed amendments to Belmont Board of Health tobacco regulations. The first amendment will include language to cap the number of tobacco permits issued by the Board. Following a discussion about the different caps available, the Board opted to move forward with the "advanced cap" language. This option will only allow a new retailer to apply for and obtain a tobacco sales permit if purchasing an existing business possessing an active tobacco sales permit. The second amendment will prohibit the sale of tobacco products in healthcare institutions. Health Department staff will work with D.J. and Natalie to prepare a regulation to include both amendments. A Public Hearing will be scheduled in July. Board members thanked D.J. and Natalie for their assistance.

Wesley asked the Board if they would develop a compensatory time policy for management staff for attendance at after hour meetings. The Board said time off should be at the discretion of Wesley, and no formal policy will be developed.

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

- The Bartlett Avenue housing case required Health and Police Department attention.
- The Grant Avenue housing case is 90% resolved.

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- The drainpipe at A Chocolate Dream, which was discharging water into their former sink, was an overflow pipe for their water heater. They will not be allowed to discharge this water into their new 3-basin sink.
- New food establishment, The Wellington, will meet and greet the Board at next month's meeting.
- Board members appreciated the charts included in the report which depicted a number of marijuana related findings from Colorado.

The Food Inspection report was reviewed.

The Disease report was reviewed, noting a salmonella case.

The Nurse's report was reviewed, and Board members appreciated the reports focus on romaine lettuce.

The Youth and Family Services report was reviewed, noting appreciation of Dr. David Alper's generous donation to purchase gift cards for the Golden Shoes Walking Campaign.

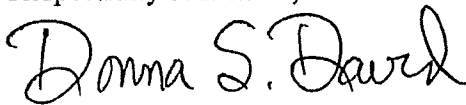
The Animal Control Officer report was reviewed. Board members commented on two photos included in the report: the cute close up of the coyote pup, and the sad photo of owlets poisoned as a result of their parents feeding them poisoned wildlife.

The Veterans' Services officer report was reviewed, and Board members were happy to know Bob's hours will increase to 26 hours per week beginning July 1st.

The next Board of Health Meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna S. David". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donna S. David, Chair