

2017 FEB 16 AM 10:45

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017

This meeting of the Belmont Board of Health was moved to the Homer Building, Conference Room 13 due to no heat in Conference Room 1 at Town Hall.

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 5:33 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.

Also present for part of the Meeting were Ms. Donna Moultrup, Town of Watertown Consultant; Mr. Ottavio Forte, Belmont resident.

The December 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes were approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Nomination of John Maguranis as Inspector of Animals was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Nomination of Angela Braun as Inspector of Animals was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Nomination of Wesley Chin as Inspector of Animals was approved by a vote of 3-0.

The Receipts report was reviewed.

The Disease report was reviewed. There was a brief discussion concerning the high absentee rate at Butler School this week due to a gastrointestinal outbreak.

The Food Inspection report was reviewed. Wesley will continue efforts to coordinate an inspection at St. Joseph Church.

The Veterans' Services Officer report was reviewed, noting the continued success of the Eagle Scout project.

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

- Angela Braun reported the FY2018 budget process continues, with meetings scheduled in January and February. Dr. Alper asked if a flu clinic(s) were held at Belmont Public Schools next year, would Health Department or Schools lead the charge? Angela said it would be a collaborative effort. There was a brief discussion whether to delete or zero out the flu vaccine line item from the FY2018 budget.
- There are two Emergency Preparedness Meetings scheduled with Ms. Ali Novak, EP Consultant.
- The ETA for the Animal Control truck is this week. DPW staff inspected the van, and made a request for the dealership to enhance the emergency flashing lights.

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017

- State legislators approved a 6 month delay for the licensing of retail marijuana establishments.
- Health Department is waiting for Facilities Department to advise the next step for acquiring the electric vehicle.
- Wesley has contacted Ms. Natalie Miller, Tobacco Control Program Coordinator, concerning an amendment to Belmont's Tobacco Regulations.
- Lead testing at the schools and town buildings continues.
- The Community Conversation meeting is scheduled for January 10th. This public forum will focus on the opioid assessment report prepared by Jill Block.
- Merrill Avenue housing update – It will be necessary for a new case to be filed if the Health Department needs to proceed with the matter. The Cambridge District Court Clerk previously working on the case has retired.
- 68 Gordon Terrace – Angela Braun has been asked to appear at a scheduled court hearing. The case was filed by the Belmont Housing Authority.
- Cushing Square Village – Health Department staff continue to receive correspondence from the neighborhood organization. Toll Brothers should hold public meetings to answer questions. Dr. Alper said the Health Department needs a risk communicator. Ms. Lemay offered to be a contact person.

The Board welcomed Ms. Donna Moultrup to the Meeting to discuss regulations/policy concerning the keeping of honeybees. Ms. Moultrup developed regulations for the Town of Watertown. The regulation was subsequently adopted by the Watertown Board of Health. The following list is an overview of the Keeping of Honeybees discussion:

- Ms. Moultrup is presently the Inspector of honeybees kept in Watertown.
- The Watertown Animal Control Officer will be attending a course in the near future, and will be Watertown's Inspector.
- The Town of Watertown regulations require beekeepers to prove they can keep bees, by presenting their credentials to the Board of Health.
- Ms. Moultrup began the development of the regulations by reviewing the Town of Hingham's regulations.
- The cities of Boston, Somerville and Cambridge regulations require a beekeeper to register with the Department of Agriculture, and hives inspections by the State are required.
- There has been some push back by Animal Control Officers, and Mike Cahill, Director, MA Dept. of Agriculture Resources, Division of Animal Health, insofar as including in an adopted regulation that ACO's are required to inspect beehives.
- Ms. Moultrup talked about diseases of the hives, such as American Foulbrood, and the possible need for Fire Department involvement because the hives must be burned.

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2017

- Most honeybee keepers don't want to be regulated.
- Mr. Ottavio Forte suggested that the Board of Health needs beekeeper's to assist in writing regulations.
- Dr. Alper said regulations need to protect the bees and the citizens. Defining setbacks are needed to protect the public, the health of the bees will be left to the beekeepers.
- Mr. Forte said he is offering an adult education course beginning in March. He has been a Bee Association member for 25 years.
- Dr. Alper said regulations should be built on Watertown's and adopted, amended as needed.
- Ms. Braun said a public information meeting is needed. She also said the regulation/policy should include language that the State be notified of the location of beehives in Belmont.
- Ms. David asked Mr. Forte if the State knows which beehives are in Belmont, and if hives are planted on residential property.
- The next step will be a Public Forum. The Forum will follow the next Board of Health Public Meeting, February 15th. The Forum will allow the Board to receive input from residents concerning the Keeping of Bees Regulation/Policy.

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

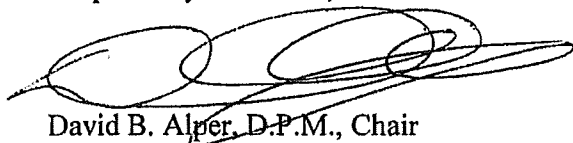
- AFC Sushi update – A Certified Food Manager was on staff January 9th.
- Star Market plans were submitted today. There was a concern of excessive dust present from the construction. Angela and Wesley will inspect it tomorrow.
- Monitoring of the Concord Avenue strip mall rodent concern continues. The property owners will contact their dumpster company and request replacement of the dumpster.

The Board reviewed Staff goals for 2018, and were pleased with the outlines submitted to Human Resources.

The next Board of Health Meetings are scheduled for February 15, 2016 at 5:30 pm, and March 27, 2016 at 5:30 pm.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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