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The May 22, 2014 meeting of the Belmont Board of Health 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, David B. Alper, D.P.M., Vice Chair, Angela Braun, R.S., Assistant Director, John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer, Maria Reddington, Clerk.

The Hearing for David Fields regarding a dog issue was discussed. Mr. and Mrs. Fields, owners of "Lucy", and The Nystedt's, owners of "Binkley" were present. John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer, provided a summary of his investigation of the incident. Mr. Maguranis made note that no other incidents involving Lucy had been reported to him previously. Mr. Fields spoke to the Board about the incident involving "Lucy", and "Binkley", stating that in 9+ years of owning Lucy, she had never shown aggression toward small animals. Mr. Fields also stated the incident occurred while he and his wife were away, and Lucy was being taken care of by Mr. Fields' mother-in-law, who resides in Wayland, Massachusetts. Lucy and Binkley were familiar with each other from prior visits, but this incident resulted in Binkley's death. Mr. Fields apologized to the Nystedt's, and advised the Board that Lucy was attending canine training classes. Mr. Fields also mentioned that training continued in their home, which included participation by other family members.

Mr. Nystedt described the incident between Lucy and Binkley. He also stated he had knowledge of Lucy being muzzled in the past. Mr. Nystedt stated he does not want the Fields' harmed, but feels Lucy may need a muzzle while in public. Mrs. Nystedt stated to the Board that the Fields have been most sympathetic, and she was present at the Hearing for closure.

John Maguranis stated the incident between Lucy and Binkley was a rare event. John feels Lucy is not a danger to people, but possibly a danger to small dogs due to "prey" drive. The Orders of the Board of Health are as follows, pursuant to the recommendation of John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer

1. Continue canine training, and provide follow up progress reports from the trainer, to include additional detail, and analysis regarding "triggers."
2. John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer, to meet with Lucy, and provide the Board with a follow-up report.
3. Lucy must be leashed at all times while in public, and extreme caution followed when small animals are present.

The Hearing adjourned at 6:10 pm.

The Hearing for Katherine Finn regarding a dog issue was discussed. Katherine Finn, owner of “Diamond”, victim John Marifote, victim Dan Campbell (owner of “Teddy”), and Janet P., Belmont Housing Authority Administrative Assistant were present for the Hearing. John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer, provided a summary of his investigation of three separate incidents involving Diamond. Katherine Finn stated Diamond was from a breeder, and had no incidents until Diamond was hit by a car and bit by a dog. Ms. Finn said she is doing everything she can for Diamond.

The first dog bite by Diamond was briefly described. The owner picked up her dog – the trainer suggested that was a “trigger” for Diamond, the dog was likened to a piñata, and Diamond bit it.

The second dog bite by Diamond was described. Diamond bit Mr. Marifote hand as he was walking down the street. Mr. Marifote showed Board of Health members photos of his hand injury. Ms. Finn stated Mr. Marifote often “played” with Diamond, and perhaps the bite to his hand was seen as “play.” Mr. Marifote denied Ms. Finn’s suggestion that he “played” with Diamond in the past. Mr. Marifote also stated his young son will not play outdoors if Diamond is outside, because his son fears the dog.

The third dog bite by Diamond was described. Diamond bit “Teddy” at the same time a young child was screaming. Perhaps the child’s scream was a trigger for Diamond. Mr. Campbell showed Board of Health members photos of Teddy’s injuries.

Ms. Janet P. states Diamond is seen in the Gordon Terrace neighborhood daily, and Ms. Finn is not following Belmont Housing Authority’s policy by registering Diamond as a visitor with office staff.

Ms. Finn stated she is a resident of Waltham, not Belmont. Diamond is licensed in the City of Waltham. Ms. David voiced her concern that John Maguranis’ numerous orders to license Diamond prior to the third biting incident were ignored.

Dr. Alper and Ms. David stated the Town of Belmont and neighborhood safety are of the utmost concern to the Board of Health.

Ms. Finn stated that Diamond is a service animal for her many medical issues.

Orders of the Board of Health are as follows, pursuant to the recommendation of John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer:

1. Diamond is to be muzzled until further notice.
2. Diamond is to be on a 3 foot leash.
3. Diamond cannot be tethered to any pole, stairway, etc.
4. The owner must provide a list of names of persons able to handle/care for Diamond.
5. Canine training/reporting is to start immediately, at a minimum of 1 time per week.
6. John is to be notified when Diamond is in Town, notification to be communicated through the Belmont Housing Authority and/or neighbors.

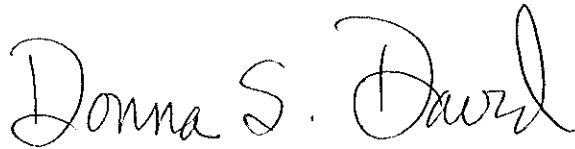
The Hearing adjourned at 6:50 pm.

The Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2014 were approved by majority.

The Staff Reports were reviewed. All reports are on file in the Health Department.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna S. David". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully submitted,".

Donna S. David, R.N., M. N., Chair