



TOWN OF TISBURY

Office of

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2017 – 4:00 PM

The Tisbury (Town) Board of Health (BOH) met on Tuesday, August 8, 2017, at the Tisbury Town Hall Annex.

Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Malcolm Boyd, Jeff Pratt, and Michael Loberg. Maura Valley, Health Agent, Catie Fuller, Assistant Health Agent, and Valerie Soushek, Administrative Secretary, were also in attendance.

Chairman Boyd presided and called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Minutes

Commissioner Pratt moved to approve the minutes of July 25, 2017; Commissioner Loberg seconded the motion; all commissioners voted in favor.

Health Agent Operational Updates

NitROE Pilot Program

Ms. Valley reported: Ms. Valley and John Smith met with Mr. Reid Silva, Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, to review the engineering requirements of the project; Ms. Valley is assembling septic data for the selected properties for Mr. Silva; Mr. Smith will be working with other engineers, who have already designed plans for two (2) of the selected sites, as those plans will be used for the project; finally, according to Mr. George Heufelder: if the Town executes the application submission to the State, the \$500 fee will be waived and generate cost savings of \$5000 for the Town.

General Question re: House Construction in Watershed

Ms. Valley presented the commissioners with a general question: can a current Title 5 septic system be used at property on Hines Point/in the Lagoon Pond watershed, where the present dwelling is scheduled for demolition and new construction with no increase in bedrooms and a functioning septic system, to which the commissioners advised Ms. Valley to seek legal counsel from Joan Malkin, Esq.

Venison Distribution

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Ms. Valley reported that she and Ms. Fuller met with Mr. Matt Poole, Health Agent for Edgartown, and Dick Johnson, Island Biologist, regarding a program for processing deer venison distribution: processing the meat at The Larder and distributing ground venison through the food pantry. Ms. Fuller is going to contact the Nantucket Health Agent regarding their program. As Chairman Boyd reminded the Board, a similar program is in place for fish. Ms. Fuller clarified that the program would start small in scope, with 10 deer, but which could supply 20 island families or more with ground venison; however, more research is required.

Nursing Contract – Additional Programs

Ms. Valley provided a printout outlining exercise programs for falls prevention for elderly residents; however, the proposal provided by VNA Cape Cod is “outrageous”, especially for estimated travel expenses, which exceed the proposed pricing for the actual programs. Ms. Valley added that other programs would have to be terminated in order to make funding available for the proposed program. Ms. Valley recommended that the commissioners reject the proposal as it is cost prohibitive in terms of the current budget, to which the commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Loberg made a motion to reject the proposal upon review and hearing Ms. Valley’s recommendation; Commissioner Pratt seconded the motion; all commissioners voted in favor.

Demolition at the future Martha’s Vineyard Museum Site

Ms. Valley reported that the BOH office had received a telephone call from a resident who lives near the demolition site and is concerned about airborne asbestos and lead particles. Ms. Valley researched the matter and has learned that environmental monitoring professionals are on-site to test for airborne and soil contamination; John Keene has a pumper truck on site to contain any dust plumes with water; contaminated soils are being separated, bagged/rolled off to a facility authorized to handle such debris; a final report showing the results of the on-going process will be submitted to the Building and Board of Health offices.

Tashmoo Watershed Septic / 22-A-4.3

Ms. Valley reviewed a proposed plan from Mr. Chris Alley, SB+H, to build two (2) commercial structures, a warehouse and workshop, on a property located in the Lake Tashmoo watershed with an estimated flow rate of 50-60 gallons per day; Mr. Alley is questioning whether the regulations should apply given the low flow rate and if there are any benefits to denitrifying 50-60 gallons flow rate per day at the cost of an advanced treatment system.

Commissioner Loberg recommended seeking legal counsel from Joan Malcolm, Esq., and asked to table the discussion until the next meeting on August 22, 2017, to which all agreed.

Appointment(s):

4:30P Dick Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported on deer and tick populations on the island: there are not a lot of mosquitos this year; however that could change if we have more rainfall; he confirmed

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that he has conducted approximately 100 surveys for ticks on private properties and clarified that it is difficult to measure the populations on a year-over-year basis; he confirmed that the population of Deer Tick Nymphs has dropped, but they will reappear in September and the Lone Star and Dog Ticks are still abundant on the island, especially up-island.

Mr. Johnson presented his proposal for the year as he is seeking support from the commissioners: he would like to ramp up two (2) parts of his program in the new fiscal year, i.e. more yard surveys for at-home prevention options and the presentations to the general public in order to generate a wider scope of awareness as surveys are much more time consuming; in the future, Mr. Johnson would like to hire college interns to handle the day-to-day surveys while he manages their training and schedules.

Mr. Johnson also reported on deer herd reduction: he confirmed that representatives from Massachusetts' Division of Fisheries and Wildlife have agreed to meet on the Island this fall to discuss options and possible adjustments to the current regulations; Mr. Johnson is considering suggestions from hunters for culling the current deer population, i.e. extending the season for archery hunting and negotiating the availability of more private property for hunters; he indicated that Island Grown Initiative is also looking into options for processing venison, a small pilot program.

All commissioners confirmed their support of the proposed programs and look forward to further discussions.

Assistant Health Agent Report

Report of Food Poisoning

Ms. Fuller reported that the BOH office received a call regarding a food poisoning event from a patron of Woodland Grill: upon inspection, Ms. Fuller, noted infractions, but did not believe that penalties are necessary since the cook, owner, and staff at Woodland Grill are cooperating with the BOH on corrective measures.

Old Business: N/A

DWAs approved by the BOH

4055 Emma Young Shubael Weeks Path / 51-A-6.11

New Business

Application for Permit to Install Well / Emma N. Young / Shubael Weeks Path / 51-A-6.11

According to Ms. Valley, the plan for a new well at Shubael Weeks Path / 51-A-6.11 is unremarkable; the plan meets all setback requirements, no variances are requested, and a baseline test report must be submitted upon excavation.

The commissioners voted to approve the application for a permit to install a well at Shubael Weeks Path, parcel no. 51-A-6.11, unanimously.

Payables and Permits for Approval: N/A

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Commissioner Pratt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 PM; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Loberg; all commissioners voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Soushek

Document(s)

The Board of Health accepts the meeting minutes, dated August 8, 2017, as presented.

Date: 18 Sept 2017 Signed: _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'V. Soushek', written over a horizontal line.