

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Zoom Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2021
Approved: May 11, 2021

Board of Health Members present: Sharon McCarthy, Chair; Chris Mitchell; Libby Levison.

Attending (Including but not limited to): Alison Flynn, Clerk, Harvard Board of Health (“BOH”); Ira Grossman, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (“NABH”); Kara Minar, Select Board.

Ms. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Ms. Flynn provided instructions for remote meeting participation.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Report from NALMS Cyanobacteria Biology and Toxicity Webinar (4/20/21)- Ms. McCarthy reported on her attendance at the webinar stating that the first talk was very technical, she found the second talk by Elizabeth Hilborn of the EPA was very helpful. Ms. McCarthy indicated that she now agrees that it is more important to pay attention to cell count because toxicity can be so variable. Ms. McCarthy stated that she forwarded the link to the recording to the other members and suggested that the seminar at the end of May regarding monitoring will be particularly relevant.

b. Availability for Mosquito Control for the Twenty-First Century Task Force listening session (5/3 at 11 a.m.)- Ms. McCarthy stated that she will attend and plans to comment; Ms. Levison and Mr. Mitchell will also try to attend. Ms. Levison stated that she received an e-mail indicating that several groups, including the MA Audubon Society are cosponsoring the session, and she expects that other groups opposed to spraying will join.

c. Update from NABH quarterly meeting (4/15/21)- Ms. Levison reported on her attendance at the meeting, including regarding discussions covering that the Quarterly budget is balanced, and where communities stand on the opt-out application.

d. Update from recent DPH COVID-19 Conference Calls & enforcement of new and revised orders issued by Governor Baker- Ms. McCarthy stated that she e-mailed her notes of the calls, and provided an overview of the upcoming changes. She agreed to forward her notes to Ms. Sobalvarro in response to an earlier question about the 4th of July Parade.

e. Update from the Emergency Response Team- Ms. Levison indicated that an ERT meeting was not held.

f. Clerk and Health Agent Update

- Ms. Flynn advised that DPH is looking for the BOH to designate its “local communicator” for EEE messaging. It was agreed that Ms. McCarthy will serve this role with Ms. Levison as a backup.

- Ms. Flynn advised that she received a quote from Ticked Off for \$1.25/unit for tick removers, plus shipping. The BOH members approved a purchase of 300 tick removers.
- Ms. McCarthy shared that she received a complaint that there is a lack of mask-wearing & social distancing at the Lancaster soccer fields; Mr. Grossman will pass this information on to Mr. Brookings, as Health Agent for Lancaster.

PERMITS

Mr. Mitchell made the motion to take Permits out of the agenda order; Ms. Levison seconded. All were in favor by roll call vote.

- Lot 2 Prospect Hill Road: Transfer- Mr. Mitchell made the motion to approve the permit; Ms. Levison seconded. All were in favor by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Continued preparation of the Application for an Alternative Mosquito Management Plan- the Board of Health Members reviewed and revised the draft application with input from Ms. Minar. It was agreed that Ms. McCarthy and Ms. Flynn will work to incorporate the revisions for submittal to the Select Board.

Ms. Levison asked Mr. Mitchell to review the revised EEE briefing document for the Select Board.

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to table all other discussions to the next meeting; Ms. Levison seconded.

ADJOURNMENT- Ms. Levison made the motion to adjourn at 9:27 p.m.; Mr. Mitchell seconded. All members were in favor by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Flynn, Clerk

Documents Referenced:

- Agenda
- Draft Application for an Alternative Mosquito Management Plan
- Lot 2 Prospect Hill Road: Septic permit application and unsigned permit