

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2017

7:00 pm

Sharon Community Center Conference Room

Present: L. Raynus, E. Welch, J. Schwab, Ken Zoller, B. Anderson, J. Andrews. Absent: C. Levine

Also attending: Cheryl Sbarra, Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB), Dennis Lane, Coalition of Responsible Retailers, Philip Pitha, Madeline Champagne, Kathy Farrell.

The Board review minutes from the May 17, 2017 meetings and were approved with corrections.

Anderson asked that the Board review requests from area pools for variances to the requirement for lifeguards during operating hours. After some discussion, the Board asked for additional information to be provided at the next Board meeting.

The Board then heard from Cheryl Sbarra and Dennis Lane regarding the proposed new tobacco regulations. After the discussion, it was agreed that Anderson should work with Ms. Sbarra to provide a comparison of the existing and proposed regulations for Sharon that might be provided to the public. It was also agreed that following review of the document(s) at a subsequent meeting, the Board would hold a public hearing on the tobacco regulations to be scheduled for October 2017. Zoller motioned for the Board to hold a public hearing on the proposed tobacco regulations; Schwab seconded the motion, all voted in favor.

Philip Pitha then provided information on the proposed new high pressure gas line that has been approved at the federal level to run through Massachusetts communities including Sharon. Pitha noted that the Board had decided at their May 17, 2017 meeting not to sign on to the letter protesting the pipe line discussed in a letter from the MAHB. Pitha referred to a draft letter he had provided to the Board which they might wish to consider submitting to the State. The Board asked for more information related to the potential health and climate impacts of the pipeline, and the net benefit to the town, before voting on the issue. Anderson agreed to gather more information for the next meeting.

Jim Andrews then spoke to the Board regarding a second Title Five inspection at 62 South Main Street, which confirmed the failure of the system. The Board asked Anderson to write a letter to the owner of 62 South Main Street, D. J. Golden, requiring installation of a new system to be carried out within 30 days of the letter, and to note the possibility of condemnation of the property under 105 CMR 410, the State housing code.

Andrews also asked to speak to issues related to irrigation wells. At the present time irrigation wells are not required to comply with usage restrictions. Andrews feels that usage restrictions should be applied to all irrigation wells. The Board unanimously agreed that they should not be making the decision on this issue.

Board reviewed a proposed budget for spending of the \$5,000 provided to Sharon for emergency preparedness efforts. Anderson noted that the budget was submitted to the Cambridge Health Alliance as required, but that two subsequent revisions to the draft budget may be made.

Anderson discussed the town's recycled product procurement policy, and noted that some of the papers used for Board of Health documents do not comply with the policy. The Board asked Anderson to identify alternative products for consideration.

Food safety concerns at the Carriage House Pizza establishment were discussed. Anderson reviewed the inspection history of the site with the Board. At the May 17, 2017 meeting the Board voted in favor of a variance granted to the restaurant allowing time as a public health control for sliced pizza, as long as the facility maintained compliance with 105 CMR 590, the food code for Massachusetts. Anderson indicated that at subsequent inspections after the variance was granted, significant critical violations were identified, but that the restaurant had gradually improved. The Board agreed that Anderson would be granted the authority to rescind the variance should further significant violations including failure to have a person in charge trained in food safety as required under regulations on staff.

The Board briefly discussed a meeting on June 28, 2017 at 3:00 pm to be held to discuss the report from a consultant on the public health program in Sharon.

Meeting dates for July 19, 2017 and Thursday August 17, 2017 were agreed upon. Zoller moved to adjourn; Schwab seconded; all voted in favor. The meeting ended at 9:18 pm.