



MEETING MINUTES

July 27, 2020

Members Present via Remote: Sarah Scheinfein, Robert Thibeault, John Wentzell (6:55 p.m.)

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dennis Costello

Recorder: Melanie Rich

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m. Roll call was taken for members and staff attending remotely: Sarah Scheinfein, Robert Thibeault, Dennis Costello and Melanie Rich. John Wentzell joined in at 6:55 p.m.

The Chair announced that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, the Boylston Board of Health meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

RESIDENT BUSINESS

Compass Pointe – Dennis said they were putting up the high vent on the Presby system. He went there Friday; it looks like the high vent has been installed with the filter. He needs to speak with the installer, Steve Turnblom, and also with Presby to ask them about the use of the charcoal filter; it may or may not prove to be a good fix; we don't know the answer to that.

A resident was looking for the setbacks to his unit number. The setback is approximately 48-feet; the regulations are 20-feet. The tanks were approximately 18'-20' from the house; they can be as close as 10-feet.

Mark Anttila asked if they were supposed to put in a separate vent for the Presby. Dennis said the high vent should be on the Presby. Mr. Anttila said the high vent is for the FAST system. Dennis will speak to Mr. Turnblom as they may be tied in together. Mr. Anttila does not believe they should be tied in together. Dennis wants to talk to Presby and John Grenier to get to the bottom of the two vents. Mr. Anttila spoke to the Presby people and said they were very helpful. He said there is air coming out of the lower vents.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Sarah Scheinfein made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes dated June 29, 2020; Robert Thibeault seconded; roll call vote: Scheinfein-yes; Thibeault-yes; motion approved.

Board of Health Meeting Minutes – July 27, 2020

August 24th was confirmed as the next meeting date

Reorganization – Sarah will remain as Chair for one more year; Rob and John will stay on as board members.

Flu Clinic – CVS contacted Sarah and wanted to know if the board would be interested in having them do another flu clinic. It is expected to be a bad year for the flu and is anticipated that more people will be looking to get a flu shot. CVS will not receive their vaccine until August 15th. Sarah told them preliminarily yes. Dennis thinks it is good idea; a lot of the Health Agents are trying to get a handle on what the state might offer this year because they are pushing to get everyone vaccinated from pediatrics to the elderly. The actual vaccine is going to be lagging this year; the BOHs that have bought vaccine will not be getting their full complement (lot) until late October. He thinks we should schedule it. Sarah said they offered an October timeframe. Dennis thinks it will be a large turnout. We will need to talk to the pharmacy so it can be set up COVID-friendly.

A teacher from the Boylston Elementary School reached out to Sarah wanting to know what school will look like, how will they set up their classroom, etc. Schools should work with suggestions from the local boards of health; there is an enormous amount of information to consider. They are supposed to have a plan in place as soon as possible. Sarah spoke with the teacher yesterday and told her what the board's recommendations would be. They are putting together a plan. Rob said the superintendent sent an email to all parents in the district today with some guidelines of what they are going to do as well as a teleconference call with him. Dennis will contact the superintendent and ask if they want us involved in the process. One of the questions that was asked of Sarah was about students staying in one classroom and the teachers moving. What if the teacher gets sick? Dennis said technically the student and the teachers are not close contacts. The teacher would have to leave, where she's been cleaned, and the students would be considered close contacts at that point. The cleaning protocols are still being debated. Sarah thought desk placement with plexiglass or plastic and students wearing masks. We will wait until they prepare a plan.

AGENT'S REPORT

COVID-19 Virus Update – The current number is 23. There are only 2 active cases in town. Our numbers are good. Dennis is trying to get back to Region 2 for funding; our nurse Cheryl Rawinski is our voting person. He will talk to her to gear up for a possible outbreak in the fall.

COVID-19 Spending for FY21 – The board received a grant from the Region for \$10,000; it has been spent on overtime, checking voice mails, computers, nursing, thermometers, facemasks, etc.; in total we spent approximately \$14,500. We did not have to tap into the Cares Act the last fiscal year. This fiscal year there will not be any grants available at the local level and we should make our plans known to the BOS and/or the Town Administrator that we intend to tap into it if we need it. \$15,000 was spent on a four-month cycle, we need to ask for \$60K from the Cares Act. Twenty-two cases cost approximately \$6,000-\$7,000 for nursing services alone. Should there be a surge, we would have to use the contact tracing collaborative hired by the state

Board of Health Meeting Minutes – July 27, 2020

(even though there is quite a bit of miscommunication with them). We need to keep our public health nurse. In addition to COVID monitoring, she monitors the MAVEN system and conducts follow-ups. Sarah will tell the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen that it is the intention of the Board of Health to use funds in the Cares Act for the ongoing fight with COVID-19. The Cares Act will pay for 75% of money that is spent on COVID-19. The town can apply for 25% from FEMA and should get back 100% of monies spent. No one can predict the fall, winter or when a vaccine will be available. The plan is to vaccinate everyone in the town.

Dennis said at some point the board should discuss the idea of getting more public health people on board. Different ideas could include regionalization or sharing an infectious disease nurse. He believes the town will need it in the future to keep the residents healthy.

69 Melrose Street Update – The daughter said the mother is back living in the house. Dennis told her that we need to move forward legally, but before it goes to the court, the board needs to hold a public hearing. The Order was sent; nothing has been done; it needs to go to the Housing Court. He told her that when the public hearing takes place, the mother will have to attend because she is the owner. If she does not show, she is in contempt. Next month we will send out an invitation for her to attend; nothing has been done and nothing probably will be done; the courts will have to handle it.

Rooster Complaint (Lombardi) – Melanie received an email that Ms. Lombardi is sending a letter to her neighbor and if there is no resolution will attend the August meeting.

PLAN REVIEW

81 Nicholas Avenue (Nost) – Sarah Scheinfein made a motion to approve the plan; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

15 Morningdale Avenue (Furbish) – Variances are needed for this installation. Testing was done in 1999 when the requirements for soil testing were one deep hole and one perc test for a repair; regulations now require two deep holes and one perc test. Our minimum size septic system is 750 square feet. Because of the constraints, they are using a Presby system which gives a 40% reduction (which reduces it below our 750 square feet, but is above Title 5). A reduction in the septic tank location from the foundation wall is needed. Typically, it is 10-feet from the foundation; they are asking for 5-feet. They are trying to utilize the back space as best they can. They are asking to come within 2-feet of the groundwater table. The Presby system is allowed to come within 2-feet of the groundwater table, and it is allowed by Title 5. It is a 2-compartment septic tank design with a 1,000-gallon pump chamber; there is also a poly-barrier. Dennis recommended approval. John Wentzell made a motion to approve the plan; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

256 School Street (Morel) – Testing was done in 2009; a system was designed and installed in 2010. This is the third system; it is not known why it failed. Since the testing was done within the code, that information was used. The design is the same as before. Sarah Scheinfein made a motion to approve the plan; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

Board of Health Meeting Minutes – July 27, 2020

Dennis commented on the new travel mandate. He doesn't know how it will affect certain places. He talked to the Town Administrator this morning and asked if there would be a policy on it; she did not know. If the board chooses to enforce the travel mandate in the office building, what does that mean for someone coming back to work. If they have to quarantine, do they get paid, do they have to use sick time; there has been no workable policy yet. Sarah will email the Board of Selectmen.

John Wentzell made a motion to adjourn; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.