

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Tuesday September 3, 2019 – 5:00 PM – Richmond Town Hall, 1529 State Road

PRESENT: Mr. Andrew Fisher, Chair; Mr. Peter Cohen, Ms. Louise Maron, Mr. Anthony Segal, Mr. Fred Schubert, Mr. John Olander, Agent; Ms. Phyllis LeBeau, Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

GUEST: Ms. Emily Jarrett, R.N., Community Health Assn.; Ms. Jayne Smith, Agent; Ms. Claudia Ryan

Ms. Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hilltop Orchards Violation Letter: Ms. Jayne Smith noted that she had contacted the person who deals with Labor Camps for the State who confirmed that the requirements are that two or more workers (or their spouses) live in the building and that rent is included as part of their compensation. Ms. Smith suggested sending Hilltop Orchards a letter advising them of the requirement and asking for confirmation of their compliance. A complicating factor is that there appears to be a potential sale of Hilltop Orchards, which could act as leverage for their compliance. If Ms. Smith receives confirmation from Hilltop Orchards, she will forward that to the Board.

Bartlett's Water Issue: Mr. Cohen reported that Bartlett's received a letter from the State instructing them to remove the existing ultraviolet decontamination system and to place a tap for water-testing at the top of the hill. There was no indication that the State intended Bartlett's to replace the old decontamination system with a new one. Bartlett's will contact Rep. Smitty Pignatelli and ask for his help in resolving this dilemma. Until Bartlett's approaches the Board for help, there is no further action the Board can take on this issue.

Beach Water Testing: Mr. Fisher was in touch with Mr. Peter Beckwith, Richmond Highway Superintendent, asking him to order the signs reading, "Beach Closed, No Swimming" with "Board of Health" at the bottom. Those will be posted if the water tests positive for high levels of contamination. Mr. Beckwith feels that posting the signs is the responsibility of the Board of Health Agent, Mr. Olander. The Board needs to sort out a few issues: where the signs will be stored to begin with. There was a discussion that resulted in the decision to give the appropriate signs to the Camp and to the Richmond Shores Association to post at need. The third sign will be kept at Town Hall for posting at Richmond Pond Beach when needed and Ms. Claudia Ryan will be responsible for posting it upon notice that the beach has been closed. That information will have to be included in the algorithm that Mr. Schubert is working on. There was a discussion of where at the Pond the notice would be posted and the need for a signpost to hang it on.

There was a discussion of when the Pond was closed to swimmers that raised the issue for Ms. Smith of an additional sign that would advise the public as to the official opening and closing dates for the Pond. With that sign in place, anyone swimming in the Pond after the official closing date would be

doing so at their own risk. Ms. Smith will ask Mr. Beckwith to order that sign for the Board. Ms. Smith will put together a sample of the wording of the various signs Mr. Beckwith will be ordering for the Board's review.

Mr. Cohen asked for a clarification of where a positive water test result would be sent. Mr. Fisher noted that he needs all the email addresses for the members of the Board so that he can send that to the water-testing facility, along with Mr. Peter Beckwith's address.

Garbage Collection Budget: Mr. Schubert has not heard back from the Finance Committee about removing this item from the Board of Health budget. Mr. Fisher will speak to the Town Administrator, Ms. Danielle Fillio, about the Board's concern that the item is in their budget, but the Board has no input into the negotiating process.

OLD BUSINESS

1013 and 260 Dublin Rd.: Disposal System application and plan for review for 1013 and request to sign off on addition at 260. The addition at 260 Dublin Rd. sounds like it will necessitate an upgrade to the septic system.

Mrs. Helen Febbo-Soil Sample vs. perc test: The plan for an effective sewage treatment was looked at and discussed. Mr. Fred Schubert moved that the Board approve the plan, based on final review by the Board of Health Agent. Mr. Tony Segal seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Concert at Balderdash Cellars: Mr. Segal spoke to Mr. Ken Kelly about the concert. Food was provided by a food truck, which was permitted and licensed. He noted that there was a \$20.00 per car parking fee, the proceeds of which will be turned over to the Pond Association.

Pre-Operational Inspection of the Richmond School: Ms. Smith reported that a pre-operational inspection of the school was conducted. The school was found to be in very good shape. This week the Children's Study Home School will be inspected as well. As their food is brought in from Guido's Marketplace, the inspection is expected to be very simple.

BCBOHA Annual Dinner: The dinner will be held this year on October 24th at the Pittsfield Country Club. Mr. Fisher asked for the names of members who wished to attend. Ms. Claudia Ryan will make the reservations and arrange for confirmations to be sent via email to each individual. A discussion of the scheduled topics to be covered at the dinner included "Glamping," a form of "glamorous" camping. An explanation of what that entails resulted in a request to add the subject to the agenda for the October meeting, which will be done.

Ms. Emilie Jarrett, R.N. – Community Health Association Report: Richmond MAVEN report for the month of August: 1 case of Lyme, 2 cases of Anaplasmosis, 1 case of Babesiosis. Babesiosis is a rare, sometimes severe, disease caused by the bite of a tick infected with *Babesia microti*, a microscopic

parasite that infects red blood cells. Many people who are infected with Babesia feel fine, have no symptoms, and don't become sick enough to require treatment.

EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis) EEE is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. In Massachusetts, there are 7 cases of EEE in horses and 4 human cases. There are no EEE cases in Berkshire County and the county remains at a low level of risk. However, there are many counties across the state that are at moderate risk, high risk, and critical risk levels.

It is possible that some people who become infected with the virus have no symptoms. The first symptoms are fever (103-106F), stiff neck, headache, and fatigue. The disease gets worse quickly. Encephalitis is the most dangerous and frequent serious complication. There is no treatment for EEE. The risk for EEE is present until there is a hard freeze, which means a period of at least four consecutive hours of air temperature that are below 28 degrees F. Will continue to monitor the situation and encourage people to take proper precautions.

Ms. Jarrett reported that Dr. Cohen will be presenting a lecture on Medical Marijuana on Thursday October 10, 2019 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at the Parish Hall of St. Patrick's Church in West Stockbridge.

Board of Health Agent's Report & Mail: See Attached. Mr. Olander reviewed and expanded on his report on the issues handled during the past month.

A question arose from the Agent's report concerning whether a Title V inspection should be required by the Board when a house has been demolished after destruction by fire or any other cause and is being rebuilt. The consensus of the Board's discussion was that they will require a Title V inspection prior to the rebuilding of any house. Mr. Andy Fisher moved that the Board of Health create a policy that will require that the rebuilding of a house destroyed by fire or other means will require a Title V inspection. The motion was second by Mr. Peter Cohen and passed by a unanimous vote. This item was remanded to the October agenda for further discussion.

Ms. Jayne Smith asked if it would be acceptable to the Board to have her report and Mr. Olander's report combined in future. That suggestion was met with approval.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Health will take place on Tuesday October 1, 2019 at 5:00 PM

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Schubert moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Fisher and adopted by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

