

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
May 6, 2019**

PRESENT: Matthew Newman (Chair), Gary Fine (Clerk), Gail McSweeney (Member), Sheila Landy (Secretary), and Lisa Cullity (Health Agent).

6:02 MR. NEWMAN OPENED THE MEETING AND READ THE STATEMENT REGARDING AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING

HEALTH AGENT'S REPORT

The Health Agent updated the Board of Office Activity which has been routine. The latest Title V for 79 Adams Ave was received in the office. The Agent was subpoenaed to testify in a landlord/tenant dispute involving Pembroke Woods. A deal was made before she was asked to testify..

McSweeney asked the Agent if Pembroke Woods was able to charge for water use. The Agent stated that it depended if the charge for water was in the lease or not. If it is in the lease, there must be a separate meter.

Pheasant Lane landlord/tenant dispute has been resolved by the Courts.

There is an evolving issue with a dog bite that the Agent hopes to have settled in a few days.

Mr. Fine asked about 58 Woodbine and asked for an update from the owner in writing. McSweeney said to send a letter to the homeowner requesting an update. Fine asked if the office has heard from the owner of 79 Adams Avenue and she stated there has been no reaction from the homeowner.

BOARD ACTION ITEM – Approve Minutes of April 8, 2019

Mr. Fine had some edits of the Minutes and the Minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

BOARD UPDATE – Pembroke Titans Against Drugs (PTAD)

The Chair updated the Board on the activities of PTAD. The Chair stated he like serving on PTAD's Executive Board. They meet once a month. They will be giving scholarships to some Pembroke High School students. The Chair would like to stay on as the liaison to PTAD. Mr. Fine asked if they ever discuss vaping and possible legislation. The Chair said surveys have indicated 50% of the high schoolers have vaped. Fine asked if there were any statistics linking vaping to alcohol use. The Chair stated he was unaware of any statistics but he would ask. McSweeney stated she was more concerned with the amount of nicotine in the vapers. The Chair said he would keep the Board updated.

BOARD ACTION ITEM – Pond Pollution Safeguards

Ms. McSweeney led the Board in the discussion regarding the ponds. She offered some ideas she hoped the Board would look into and then make some changes. She discussed cesspools, fertilizer and herbicides. McSweeney suggest a ban of cesspools with twenty-five to fifty from any pond. Another point was to ban fertilizer use within twenty to twenty-five feet from any pond. Or require only fertilizer that is phosphate free. Residents should divert storm water from the pond to catch basins in the street. We need a plan to educate and encourage residents to use more natural approaches to lawn care which would be more economical and safer. She also stated herbicides were detrimental to the ponds. Again, twenty to twenty-five feet from the ponds and encourage more natural methods. McSweeney encouraged the Health Agent to take a look around in the winter to see where the "hot spots" are on the ponds.

The Health Agent said cesspools were made illegal in 1968. Title V is almost twenty-five years old. It may be time to work to eliminate cesspools. McSweeney stated we should ease into the elimination of cesspools as it is an economic hardship. Fine said these topics are not new, they have been around for quite some time. Mr. Fine made a motion to have all cesspools become an automatic fail with any transfer of property. Chair Newman seconded. The Chair and Fine voted yes, McSweeney voted no and the motion carried.

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UPCOMING ISSUES

Well Regulations

The Chair asked if Jim Watt had been by the Office. The Health Agent stated Mr. Watt was glad to hear the Board was considering his recommendations, especially raising the well casing. He also stated he was willing to come back. Fine was interested in having Mr. Watt come in again.

Livestock Regulations

The Chair stated this will be addressed after the election.

Reorganization

The Chair stated the Board would be reorganized after the election at the next meeting on May 20, 2019.

The Chair wished Ms. McSweeney luck with her new home and retirement. He thanked her for her service to the Town of Pembroke. Ms. McSweeney said she enjoyed her time on the Board and it was quite a learning experience. She thanked all for their help over her term.

The Chair asked Ms. McSweeney for a motion to adjourn.

Ms. McSweeney made a motion to adjourn, Fine seconded and all were in favor. The Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Matthew Newman
Chair