

## **MINUTES OF THE PEMBROKE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**November 15, 2023 at 5:30pm**

**Board of Health Office, Town Hall Room #5**

**PRESENT:** Adam Gedutis (Chair), Maureen Jasie (Member), Lisa Cullity (Health Agent), Carly Levy (Applicant) and Lauren Cushing (Applicant).

Adam Gedutis opened the meeting at 6:00pm and read the statement about the audio recording of the Meeting.

**BOARD APPOINTMENT 6:00pm** – Lauren Cushing – Interview to replace Matthew Newman.

Gedutis asked Cushing to tell them about herself. Cushing told the Board her background in farming, work, and community involvement. Jasie asked Cushing what her vision for the Board of Health was. Cushing said she would like to expand the Cottage Industry. Cullity said the Cottage Industry is mainly constricted by the Commonwealth. Jasie asked Cushing her thoughts on balancing mandates with personal liberties and how to work through that. Cushing stated it would depend on the health of the people involved. Different requirements for those who are sick or vulnerable versus those healthy. Jasie asked her availability to meet. Cushing said she works from home and is done for the day at 3:00pm. Gedutis asked if Cushing she was aware of the day-to-day role of the Board of Health. Cushing stated septic systems, flu clinics and animal inspections. Gedutis asked if Cushing had suggestions for the Board of Health. Cushing said clarity of regulations. She'd liked to see the Right To Farm signs put up around Town.

**BOARD APPOINTMENT 6:15pm** – Carly Levy – Interview to replace Matthew Newman.

Gedutis asked Carly to tell the Board a little about herself. Levy gave her background in Pharmacology and Sciences and community involvement. Jasie asked Levy what her vision for the Board of Health was. Levy said she has many skills that would be useful to the Board of Health and knows the Board of Health is short-staffed. Jasie asked Levy her thoughts on balancing mandates with personal liberties and how to work through that. Levy said it would be a delicate balance following science and letting people live their lives. Jasie asked her availability to meet. Levy said her children are older now and do not need constant attention. She could attend the meetings and would have time during the week for research for the Board. Jasie asked if she had any experience with livestock. Levy said she does not have livestock but knows people that do. Gedutis asked her if she was aware of the everyday role of the Board of Health. Levy has looked at our regulations and has been following the Board of Health. Gedutis asked if she had suggestions for the Board of Health. Levy thought subcommittees might be useful. Levy asked what the Board thought they needed. Jasie said still working on the Livestock.

**BOARD ACTION ITEM** – Vote to accept the Minutes October 18, 2023.

Gedutis made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Jasie seconded and the motion passed.

**BOARD ACTION ITEM** – Maureen Jasie - Shared Collaborative Meeting Board Update and any necessary vote.

There is a meeting scheduled tomorrow (11/16/2023 @ 9:00am). Lisa will try to attend. There are some concerns that the shared coordinator is not meeting expectations. There are also concerns about Marshfield being the host community.

### **HEALTH AGENT REPORT**

Massachusetts Health Officers Association Conference in Falmouth – The Agent stated there a one-hour presentation on Beaver Management by the Beaver Institute (a company) at the conference. They talked about putting sluiceways under water to manage the damage caused by beaver activity. The town has allocated \$10,000 for beaver management on Oldham St. The nitrate load of septic systems was another huge topic. In 5 years, all of Cape Cod is going to have nitrate treatment on every septic system. There is cost and liability to the homeowner. The anticipation is if this program is successful on Cape Cod, there may be new legislative mandates off-Cape in Zone II Aquifers. Pembroke has a lot of properties in Zone II aquifers. On the Cape, the nitrate removing system can be added to an existing system if the rest of the system is in good condition. The state is not subsidizing this. The normal septic state taxes still apply. Jasie stated there is legislation up at the state house that appears to be the PHEG. The Agent said it may be, but it may just be a re-appropriation for next year.

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*Jasie made a motion to adjourn. Gedutis seconded and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.*