

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
September 10, 2018**

PRESENT: Matthew Newman (Chair), Gary Fine (Clerk), Lisa Cullity (Health Agent), Sheila Landy (Secretary), Rob Adams (Reporter/Media Consultant), Ryan Craig (Videographer PACTV), Brooke Young (PTN Videographer), Art Egerton (PTN), Ray and Diane Holman (residents), Jim Stone (Sunshine Pool) and Stephen Patt (Resident).

6:05 MR. NEWMAN OPENED THE MEETING AND READ THE STATEMENT REGARDING AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT – Ray Holman – 81 Priscilla Drive – S.A.S. setback variance for in ground pool from 20 feet to 15 feet

Mr. Holman appeared at the last meeting requesting a variance for a reduction in setback for a swimming pool to the septic field. The majority of the Board did a site visit to see exactly why Mr. Holman was requesting a variance. The Chair thanked the Holmans for their hospitality during the site visit. Mr. Fine found the visit very informative as did Chair Newman. Fine asked Mr. Holman if there have been any slight adjustments since our last meeting. The only change is the pool is shifted further into the back yard, away from the garage. Everything else is the same. Mr. Stone (Sunshine Pool) went over the membranes and distances. Fine asked the Health Agent to explain this type of membrane. The Health Agent said this barrier is to keep the field out of the pool and the pool out of the field. If there is a breakout, the membrane will force the breakout towards the backyard, away from the pool and the house. Fine asked Stone what he thought of Holman's plan. He thought it made a lot of sense. Fine made a motion with respect to 81 Priscilla Drive to accept the request of the reduction of the leaching field setback from 20' to 15'. The Chair seconded and all were in favor.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT – Stephen Patt – 42 Blueberry Lane – Porch footing setback variance request 10' to 6' for two footings

The Health Agent went over the history of the home. This home is on Blueberry Lane and is on Stetson Pond. It was constructed originally as a summer home. After many years, the home needed to be razed. The septic system had been replaced prior to building the new home. Since the home is on the pond, when the septic system was installed, it was pushed out as far as it could be. When the new home was constructed, it was pushed back towards the street. The septic tank is 10 feet off the house and cannot be moved closer to the water. Mr. Patt would like to put a farmer's porch on his home. Two footings will come within 6 feet of the septic tank. There are five footings in total. Newman asked if a contractor was doing the work. Patt said yes and he is requiring the footings to be hand dug. Patt said he has been around the pond for fifty years and he loves it and feels the need to protect it. The Chair made a motion to accept the variance at 42 Blueberry Lane to reduce the setback of the footings from 10' to 6'. Fine asked the Agent if it was maximum feasible compliance. The Agent said it is no unusual for a porch to go all the way across the front of the house. Fine further asked if it was safe to go to six feet from a tank. The Agent said she gets nervous about less than five feet, especially if it is not an experience installer. Fine then seconded the motion and all were in favor.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT – Brett Sesnewicz – 59 Gorham Avenue – Deck footing setback from leaching field variance request

The request was withdrawn as it was not needed. They are not coming within 10' feet of the leaching field.

BOARD ACTION – Variance Request 333 High Street, Engineering Plan by Shayne McGlone

The Agent went over the lot. This is a beautiful antique farmhouse. The lot lines took a lot of time for Shayne figure out. The deed had lots of references to Jones Farm, trees, rocks, etc. to make the boundaries. There are existing wetlands. The system must be 100 feet away. There is an old foundation for a barn and a retaining wall. A perc test was not able to be performed here and a sieve analysis was conducted. The septic is shoe-horned in the backyard. The request is for reduction of the Title V Upgrade variance from the required 150gpd to the state required 110gpd. The home from this point forward will be a three bedroom. The original

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cesspool is intact with fieldstone and cobble stones. The Fine made a motion to accept the variance to reduce the 150gpd requirement to 110gpd. The Chair seconded and all were in favor.

HEALTH AGENT'S REPORT

The Agent stated she just returned from a two week vacation and had only two items to go over.

Mosquitos – As of today, in Pembroke, and the entire state, been moved into a moderate alert. The state has had have had positive testing for West Nile virus in mosquitos. She will follow up with the state for any action that needs to be taken. The state remains at a low threat for EEE which is great news for us. As for West Nile, the state has 11 people, two animals and 499 samples positive state wide.

Vacations – The Agent understands her two week vacation created a hardship as one week coincided with the Secretary's vacation. This has been reconciled for next year and it should not happen again. She thanked the DMI for pulling together to cover the office and she appreciates the cooperation of the vendors, installers and engineers that interact with the office daily. Fine said he had been concerned when he came to the office one day and no one was there. The Chair stated a lot of the departments at Town Hall work together to service the public. Fine asked to be advised of any mosquito updates. The Agent stated the curtailing of evening activities is not taken lightly as it affects the High School and many others. Carver has taken precautions and limits outdoor evening activities.

BOARD ACTION – Approve the Meeting dates through year end.

The Board approved the calendar as submitted with the understanding it could change due to unforeseen circumstances.

OLD BUSINESS – Plastic Bag Ban Subcommittee Update

Mr. Fine updated the Board regarding the Plastic Bag Ban Subcommittee. They had their first meeting last Tuesday. They named a Chair (Gordon Martin) and a Clerk (Robert Adams). Mr. Fine is a member. There was discussion about a mission statement. This will continue at the next meeting. They will be meeting once a week up until town Meeting. After Town Meeting, if there is a need for the committee to continue, they will meet every other week until the Spring Town Meeting. Either the Chair Martin or Mr. Fine would update the Board at each meeting. After the close of the last meeting, Fine asked Sabrina Chilcott to advertise the availability of two seats on the Plastic Bag Ban Subcommittee. He had been holding two spots for two members of the citizens group that had submitted the article to the Fall Town Meeting but no one stepped forward. To apply, citizens should submit an application through Sabrina Chilcott in the Town Administrator's office.

UPCOMING ISSUES

Discuss Streamlining Variance Request Approval Procedure

The Health Agent has not had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Thorne to develop possible guidelines. Fine asked for any list or guideline be submitted to the Board prior to the meeting. The Health Agent said they need to sit down and outline what is good, appropriate and beneficial to the residents. The Board does not have to accept any them or they may think it is a good idea and adopt all of them. The Administrator needs to decide what he is comfortable with as well. The process should work for everyone. Newman said the purpose of the streamlining the process is to assist the consumers and to help them get what they need when they need. Fine stated from the beginning, he has a healthy dose of skepticism. The Health Agent stated it will be a long process.

Mosquitos

The Health Agent said the mosquitos that tested positive were in Carver and Halifax. At this time all but one are in birds type mosquitos. The problem is once the bird and the mosquitos that feed on birds test positive, it is only a matter of time before they transfer that to other mammals that then get into human biting species. Right, now there is only one positive on a mammal biting species. The Agent expects those numbers to go up. There are no positive samples in animal or humans in Plymouth County. It is strictly mosquitos and only one

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positive in a human biting mosquito. She said everyone should wear DEET bug spray when out for evening activities.

Pond Pollution Safeguards

Chair Newman stated Ms. McSweeney wanted to discuss the ponds. The reports regarding Oldham and Furnace Ponds from Mr. Thorne were distributed. The Chair asked Mr. Fine to review the handouts for the next meeting. The Health Agent gave a background regarding who wrote the report and some generalities of the changes suggested.

Rooster Complaint – Hobomock St

Chair Newman asked if the complainant had to attend the meeting. The Health Agent ran through the case stating the homeowner had been given time (4 weeks) to come into compliance. If we follow protocol, it is time to write tickets. The Board could give the individual time to come in. The Agent said this is a bit different in that there is more than one violation involved. The chickens are not registered; the coop is too close to the water and the rooster is crowing. The Agent has never had anyone blatantly not respond before. Fine asked how this was different, as far as fines are concerned, from the previous problem with a rooster. The Agent said it was the same: the violation had to be verified by a Town Employee. In this case, it has been verified by a Town employee. The homeowner is not responding to any certified nor hand delivered letters. The Chair said he hopes it resolves but if fines are warranted so be it. Fine asked to send a certified letter inviting the homeowner to the next meeting. The Chair agreed. Fine said it is time to examine the regulations and possibly make changes. The Chair stated it was a good idea as there are some other livestock issues that need to be addressed such as free-ranging.

Chair Newman made a motion to adjourn at 7:20. Fine seconded and all were in favor.

Matthew Newman
Chair