

**TOWN OF HEATH
BOARD OF HEALTH**
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2017

PRESENT: Armand Clavette, Henry Godek, Susan Gruen

ALSO present: Glen Ayers, FRCOG Health Agent; Margo Newton- BOH Clerk, Mary Sumner, Cheryl Woodard, owner #3 Ledges

Chairing: Betsy Kovacs

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

1. Review of **Agenda** – accepted.
2. M/S/C; **Minutes** of November 1, 2017 meeting accepted.
3. **Chairperson Report:** Betsy reported that Melissa Durrin will be leaving as BOH clerk, and Mary Sumner will be the new BOH Clerk. She thanked Margo for all her help. Betsy also noted that Glen Ayres will be retiring from FRCOG in June 2018. He will be greatly missed. Betsy had recently attended a CPHS Oversight meeting and gave a brief summary of topics covered including that Heath's short-term rental rules are among the best in Franklin County.
4. **Health Agent Update:** FRCOG is drafting wording for short-term rental properties.
5. **Board of Health Clerk update:** Mary has started training with Margo.
6. **Budget Review:** No changes since November.

Old Business:

1. **Nurse's report:** Nurse's monthly report was reviewed. See attached.
2. **#3 Ledges:** Betsy reported that owner has been very responsive addressing issues and responding to communications. She is to come at 6:00 pm tonight for an update.

At 6:00 Cheryl joined the meeting to update the BOH that she will pay the homeowner's insurance next week and it should be set for a year. This is a requirement for Housing Authority funding. She completed the paperwork and will submit it next week in person. She was told that there is funding available. She will continue to keep BOH updated on how things progress with the Housing Authority. Cheryl then left the meeting.

3. **Dilapidated properties/unregistered vehicles:** Betsy gave a brief review: BoH members had agreed not to send a letter about enforcing rules about abandoned and dilapidated properties and unregistered vehicles until we have full support for enforcement procedures. Unregistered vehicles and trailers are under the jurisdiction of the BoH. Members agreed to take an inventory of cars/trailers on properties during December and

January. In February and March we will write letters to properties of concern inviting owners to our April 2018 BoH meeting to help educate them of the issues and ask for voluntary compliance. After that meeting we will send a first letter stating the issue/violation and 90 days to comply. After 90 days reinspect and follow up with a second letter if needed.

4. **42 Papoose:** Glen stated again that zoning comes into play here. Glen suggested creating a written policy with Planning Board to create consistency with respect to “grandfathering” permits. Susan had made a motion to write policy for pre-existing, non-conforming lots at Nov. meeting. Glen to start drafting this with Armand, Henry and Mary.
5. **5-7 Apache:** Passed the Health agent’s inspection. BoH needs to complete the file. M/S/C to complete the existing file: septic designed, was installed, and has been inspected and approved by Glen.
6. **280 8AN:** Postponed discussion to next meeting. Glen and Armand still need to look at the property to report back to next BoH meeting.
7. **140 8AN:** Susan reports that the original dumpster and one more have been filled and removed. Another dumpster is coming. With the snow arriving that will slow work. Also it is to the point of needing a machine to help lift the pieces/debris as it is full of nail, glass, wires, and very large.
8. **8 Swamp Road:** Owner has postponed meeting with ZBA until June to ask for a variance to permit three trailers on his property. M/S/C sending another letter informing owner of violation and will be fined.
9. **128 Taylor Brook:** Armand believes Melissa wrote to the owners three weeks ago asking name of pumping company and for proof of pumping. Mary and Margo will look in files to find letter or e-mail and if not found, send one. Portapotties must be pumped at a minimum of once per year, not just when full.
10. **16 Waterfall Drive/160 Colrain Stage Rd:** Glen still needs to follow up. He will call. There is allegedly a person renting a trailer and occupying it year-round.
11. **38 Bray Road:** There are nine cars and some trailers there and seems to be getting worse. M/S/C – Send a letter inviting the owners to our January BoH meeting to help educate them of the issues and ask for voluntary compliance. After the meeting follow up with a letter stating issues discussed. After 30 days review status and follow up with a second letter restating issues/concerns/violations and giving them 90 days to comply. See #3 above.
12. **123 8AN:** Someone is living there. The property wasn’t sold so there was no Title 5 inspection. Margo and Mary will pull the file on this property and review with Betsy for further information and to recommend action to BoH members.
13. **145 Avery Brook:** has been renumbered #141 for E-911 listing.
14. **Apache Drive Bickett:** Glen will follow up.

15. **85 Branch Hill Rd:** Camper question; Betsy updated that during the summer, owner stated camper is not used for other than play space.
16. **Animal control officer:** Selectmen are considering a Regional Animal Control Officer with FRCOG. BoS to deal with this issue.
17. **Town properties septic cleaning:** Glen met with Matt Lively and dug up and inspected the distribution box. All was well. Glen recommends clearing brush from the area, and keeping it clear. A septage hauler should be able to recommend a pumping schedule. Town Coordinator should follow up on this from here.

New Business:

1. Trailer on West Main Street is a zoning issue under the Planning Board and not BoH.
2. 16 Ledges Road: Betsy agreed to contact the owner about condition of abutting properties.
3. 24 Shawnee Drive – seasonal pumping, all set.
4. 166A Colrain Stage Road: All set.
5. BoH previously approved extending no smoking regulations to include all types of smoking. Mary will see what she can find in files from Melissa's work on this for next BoH meeting.
6. Briefly discussed marijuana legislation/moratorium. BoH supports BoS and Planning Board's proposal to Town on this issue.
7. Tick testing subsidies: Betsy will get a summary of this year's testing. M/S/C to order the same volume of test kits for 2018 and to fund the same subsidies. (Cost \$30, charge \$15)
8. 9 Ledges (Old Royer property): Concern over condition of property. Need to verify property number and if there are any outstanding issues. Margo and Mary will pull file to see what information we have and report back to BoH at next meeting.
9. Meetings-frequency of: Keeping the schedule as is for now. If a meeting runs long or we find we have more work that needs attention, we can always schedule another meeting to complete items.

Next BoH meeting: **January 3, 2018.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Submitted by Mary Sumner, BoH Clerk