

**Town of Heath  
Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Betsy Kovacs, Susan Gruen, Armand Clavette, Henry Godek

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Sumner BoH Clerk, Andrea Crete FRCOG Health Director

**Presiding:** Betsy Kovacs, Chairman

Meeting was **called to order** at 6:09 pm.

1. **Reviewed agenda:** No additions.
2. M/S/C to accept October 1, 2018 **minutes** as presented.
3. **Chairman's Report:** Betsy reviewed the EDS drill held at the Heath School Building on October 24 planning for a disease outbreak for which there is no vaccine. Betsy noted that we need to be trained to make ROBO calls through the Code RED system. Susan met with Kara and has written up a robo call procedure which was distributed at the meeting. Betsy and Mary will review and then also meet with Kara for training. At the request of the BoS, the BoH discussed Code Red. Mary will review our current contract to determine what the options are for terminating the service. She will research alternative services available and gather user feedback. FRCOG will have information she can access.

Betsy reported that the meeting of the Planning Board, the BoS, BoH, ZBA and Mohawk Estates representatives has not been rescheduled.

She also reported that the BoS voted to terminate the TOP program at a recent meeting and wants to hear the BoH members' opinions. The BoH members discussed the pros and cons of this action. Andrea recommended that if the BoH agreed to end the TOP process, that the BoH send a written statement to the BoS emphasizing that in the absence of the TOP process, there must be procedures in place for enforcing the temporary occupancy rules and regulations for camper/trailers. As a Zoning bylaw, the Building Inspector should do the enforcement. The BoH agreed and Betsy said she would draft such a statement/letter for Andrea's review.

4. **Clerk report:** Mary asked for clarification by the BoH on the policy for signing off on permit applications on the FRGOG system. The BoH members agreed that unless there is a special situation, if Andrea approves the application, Mary can sign off on behalf of the BoH.
5. **Budget:** Code RED bill has been paid; all other line items are in order.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Nominations for BoH:** Betsy is waiting to hear back from a possible member, if they decline, she has a few more names to contact.
2. Reviewed the **Nurses report.** Susan reported that Dr. Warner is willing to be the new doctor to oversee our program. Claire requested approval of Cathy Tallen as a covering nurse in the event the Claire is away. M/S/C for Cathy Tallen to be a substitute nurse as needed. Mary will ensure that all required paper work is completed.

**3. Health Agent Enforcement Issues:**

Andrea reported that she will be conducting inspections of Food Establishment Permits in Heath. Mary will remind permit holders to renew permits and then Andrea will inspect.

Andrea reviewed the draft check list for Air Bn'B's and Bn'B's.

She also noted that at the CSPH Oversight board meeting, well testing was discussed. We will discuss further under new business.

4. **3 Ledges:** Betsy reported that the Housing Authority has approved a loan for perc test and septic design. Betsy is encouraging owner to urge Housing Authority to do perc ASAP with cold weather coming. Noted the septic officially failed 8/30/2017; they have two years from that date to repair.
5. **5 Ledges (Town owned property):** BoS still perusing demolition quotes; an update on the property was contained in the letter BoS recently sent to all residents. The BoH agreed to send a letter to the BoS requesting that they demolish the property as soon as possible since it is a health and safety hazard. Mary to issue letter one. Send to Betsy for review first.
6. **15 Ledges (Danek property):** Mary did not get a chance to contact Tom through e-mail. Mary will send him a letter (letter one of the form letters), and if he is unable to clean up the debris ask him to come to December BoH meeting to discuss with the Board. Discussed other properties in the same condition in Town, especially 5 Ledges.
7. **128 Taylor Brook Road:** Betsy followed up with property owners, who assured her they are not using it as their permanent address; the residency issue has been clarified.
8. **594 Route 8A:** Jim Hawkins gave owners until September 24, 2018 to respond. Basic issue is a Zoning issue and needs to be enforced by Building Inspector. Andrea will follow up with Hawkins and advise BoH of best way to proceed.
9. **612 Route 8A:** Discussed upcoming Nov. 5 meeting with land owners/occupant; briefly reviewed Zoning Bylaws, TOP regulations, and MA housing code. Housing code allows BoH to grant a variance.
10. **148 Taylor Brook Road:** Failed septic; repair process is still moving forward.
11. **4 Apache (Mohawk Estates lot 6):**
  - a. Failed septic: a new tank was installed – all set.
  - b. Complaint about the condition of the yard: Mary followed up with the complainant about trash; semi-trailer has been forwarded to Hawkins who noted that the truck is still attached to the trailer so it is not technically a violation. BoH will forward complaint on to BoS/Police.
12. **181 South Road:** New septic at renovated house; plan approved at last BoH meeting; they have three years to install.

13. **Dog poop baggies:** Mary will work on installing.
14. **25 West Branch Road:** Reviewed history; Mary sent letter on October 24 to remind owner/occupants of end of occupancy date. Noted camper seems closed up and portapotty gone.
15. Enforcement of Town Bylaws regarding **unregistered vehicles:** Discussed what still needs to be done and enforcement. Mary will divide up and send out list of roads to BoH members still to review. BoH will forward data onto BoS and Police for enforcement.
16. **38 Bray Road:** Betsy recused herself and Henry chaired. Reviewed letter sent to owners concerning unregistered vehicles giving until Nov. 18 to comply. Noted with leaves off trees cars and campers in woods are very visible. Will check on property after 11/18 and if not cleaned up will send follow up to Building Inspector with copy to BoS requesting enforcement.
17. **71 Sadoga:** Reviewed issues. Have not heard back from owner on TOP; Hawkins following-up on semi-tractor; will forward unregistered cars to Bos/police with others.
18. **Smoking:** Mary is ordering more no-smoking signs which we will get to Ag. Society for posting on Fair Grounds. Will also make sure highway garage signage is up to date.
19. **On-Going or Suspended:**
  - a. **444 Route 8A:** Discussed response from church that members not will fund final clean up. Jim Hawkins sent owners a letter as he received a complaint about debris. In his letter he gave them until January 1, 2019 to complete removal of debris. Betsy will follow up with Jim after deadline.
  - b. **434 Route 8A:** BoH will check in with them in the Spring.
  - c. **52 Avery Brook:** Waiting for owners to have access to property.
  - d. **Abandoned Houses Tool Kit:** This will be kept on the agenda for when we believe we have the time to work on this.

#### **New Business:**

1. **229 South Road:** Susan reported about a concern she received about water conditions at a rental cabin located on this property. Andrea will follow up with property owner and renter/occupant.
2. **9 Cheyenne:** Zoning Board of Appeals has asked for information regarding septic on this property. Mary will get info to them.
3. **Well water testing requirements:** The well testing regulation associated with Title V inspections were discussed at the recent CPHS Oversight Board meeting. Andrea recommended deleting the requirement since the requirement is difficult to monitor and could hold up a sale. Also certified labs are a big distance from Heath. Also the Title V regs require testing if the well is less then 50 feet from the septic or 100 feet from the leach field in any case which would protect the property. Discussed. M/S/C to remove the requirement for well water testing at the time of a sale or transfer of property with a Title V and follow FRCOG CSPH recommendations.

4. Reviewed the building permit application for **118 Rowe Rd**: needs to have proof of potable water for BoH to sign off. Mary will contact owner.

**Next BoH Meeting:** The next regular BoH meeting is set for December 12, 2018 beginning at 4:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 pm

Submitted by Mary Sumner, BoH Clerk