

**Town of Heath - Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Betsy Kovacs - Chair, Armand Clavette, Susan Gruen, John Palmer

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary Sumner- BoH Clerk, Randy Crochier- FRCOG Health Agent,

**ABSENT:** Henry Godek, Gene Garland: Ex officio BoH member

Meeting was **called to order** at 5:37 pm

Passed over approving **minutes** as quorum of attendees at meeting for minutes not present.

**Chairman's Report:** Betsy reviewed the recent meeting she attended concerning Rural Public Health where she was a presenter on the public health needs of small rural towns. Briefly reviewed the status of the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) outbreak, noting it has ended with the hard frost. Betsy encouraged all board members to attend the upcoming FRGOG meeting on the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District.

Mike Seward, realtor, joined to witness the meeting at 5:46pm

Betsy reviewed the details for the upcoming Emergency Dispensing Site Drill on November 9, 2019; Motion/Seconded/Carried (M/S/C) to spend up to \$60 on refreshments.

**Health Agent report:** Randy reported on the hiring of Lisa Danek-Burke as the part time Health Agent and noted shared duties. Heath BoH requests that Randy continue to be Heath's agent. Briefly noted the Order to Correct he issued for 3 Ledges Road.

At 6:00 pm Richard Thayer and Cheryl Woodard joined the meeting to discuss **3 Ledges Road**.

Betsy and Randy reviewed the October 24, 2019 Order to Correct giving the owners until November 30, 2019 to repair issues. The next step is for Randy to reinspect the property after the deadline.

Richard and Cheryl reported that they will not be able to repair the house by that date. They are searching for alternative housing, but do not believe they will be able to move by end of November. They have put her house on the market. Discussed housing options and signing up for housing.

Cheryl, Richard and Mike Seward left the meeting at 6:18pm

Randy and Betsy reported on a complaint about sewage at **594 Route 8A**. Discussed history. Mary will send Randy history on property and Randy will follow up with Jim Hawkins regarding history on property and zoning issues. M/S/C for Randy to visit and inspect the property for health issues after he has reviewed the history on the property and current status with Hawkins.

**Clerk report:** Mary noted a request from the Conservation Committee to be informed of perc test requests. Discussed having a sign off added to application process through FRCOG. Randy will check into how to do that. Mary will update Con Com until that happens. Betsy noted it is time for annual employee review; Betsy will do.

**Budget:** Mary and Betsy noted all is in order.

**Nurse's report.** Susan reviewed the Nurse's report for October. Noted Claire's work on filling out Medicare/MassHealth forms for flu vaccine reimbursements. Susan will follow up with Claire to do her annual employee review.

Reviewed 7 **Flagg Hill Road Extension**: There has been no contact with the property owner since the missed meeting on October 20, 2019 M/S/C for Randy to follow up with the property owner and to make a recommendation to the Board for next steps. Mary will forward owner information and original complaint to Randy for review.

Reviewed two ongoing **trash complaints** in Mohawk Estates. Randy will review and advise BoH about next steps. Discussed that the BoH should deal directly with property owners and not work through Mohawk Estates Association. If trash has not been dealt with then property owner should receive 'First Letter' from BoH explaining issue and requesting they come to BoH meeting.

**25 West Branch Road**- House was moved into six months ago. As a Title V was not done at time of sale, one needs to be done now. Letter was sent reminding owner of need to do by November 30, 2019. No response to date from owner. Randy to follow-up with information from Mary.

Discussed the benefits of and the process for joining the **Pioneer Valley Mosquito District**. M/S/C that the BoH recommends to the Select Board (SB) that the Town of Heath join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito District and the BoH will provide language for a warrant article. This language was provided by Greg Lewis, PVMCD Commissioner and distributed for review to the BoH members. The motion to make this recommendation also stipulated that the town vote to join be held at an STM so that Heath could join the District with sufficient advance time for preparations for the next mosquito season. Betsy will provide SB with this language and with recommendation to join. and review necessary timing. She notes she cannot go to next SB meeting and could another BoH member go.

Susan raised concerns about poor and dangerous lack of lighting at 18 Jacobs Road property when meetings are held at night. M/S/C for Betsy to write to SB expressing safety concern over lighting.

Jenny Hamilton joined the meeting at 6:46pm.

Reviewed Jenny's applications for a porta-potty at Mohawk Estates community building for events and renovations, and her request for a conibear permit. M/S/C to approve porta-potty; M/S/C to approve conibear permit for dates requested.

Jenny left the meeting at 6:57pm

Betsy briefly reviewed where we are with the **Camper Trailer Zoning and Temporary Occupancy** issues. She reviewed a recent letter from the SB concerning a camper trailer in the Town Center District noting they want to discuss zoning concerns and possible need for changes with the Planning Board before making any determination. Mary noted that 2020 is a renewal year for a majority of temporary occupancy permits. BoH members will review the zoning bylaw, BoH TOP regulation and permit application before next BoH meeting in December when we will discuss this in detail. At the December meeting we will also discuss the definition of temporary dwelling. Mary will send Board members all relevant documents for review in advance of the next BoH meeting.

**612 Route 8A** is due for a review but property owner could not come to this month's meeting. They will be at December meeting for discussion.

At the recent Open Meeting Law training it was noted that **remote participation in meetings** is only allowed if the SB has adopted a policy for remote participation. The BoH has members who travel in winter months and find remote participation helpful. Betsy reviewed protocol for doing so. M/S/C BoH will ask SB to adopt a policy to allow for remote participation in meetings. Betsy will contact SB.

Reviewed the passage of the **Unregistered Vehicles General Bylaw** wording change at the Special Town Meeting on November 5, 2019. Passage of this Article means that unregistered vehicles are not under the BoH enforcement.

Reviewed recent **Title V's**: 81 Route 8A- passes; 60 Branch Hill Road- inspection to be on 11/11/19

Mary noted a **well application** received for Apache Drive. After reviewing with Randy it was noted this was a "test" application being run by the FRCOG software company, not a true application.

Mary noted a **letter** received expressing concern over a mold issue at a rental property located in Heath. Randy will contact complainant and advise BoH of issues and steps needed.

M/S/C to adjourn at 7:34pm

Next meeting date December 4, 2019 at 4:30pm