

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Emergency Meeting, via telephone
Tuesday, April 18, 2019
Approved: April 23, 2019

Board of Health Members present: Libby Levison, Chair; Tom Philippou.

This was an unposted emergency meeting, due to the lateness of the hour that information necessitating the meeting was received.

Meeting began at 10:12 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Levison briefed Mr. Philippou on the two emails she received from Mass DEP regarding PFAS on Wednesday, and the email she received from Joan Eliyesil, reporter from the Harvard Press on Thursday evening. Ms. Eliyesil said that the Press learned today that MassDEP is: "giving out bottled water to residents as well as a list of consumers including Parker Charter School, Applewild School, Evergreen Garden Playschool/Oxbow Schoolhouse, and Transitions. The reason is that two of their wells tested at 29 and 32 for PFAS, which is 'above the new 20 ppt limit under consideration by MassDEP.' "

Ms. Levison informed Mr. Philippou that DEP did not share the information about water distribution during the Wednesday phone call. She also said that she has written DEP and asked to speak with them on Friday to ask for guidance in what to tell Harvard residents.

Mr. Philippou suggested that the Board draft a letter to have ready to send to residents (private well owners) advising them that MassDEP is considering reducing the contaminate level to 20 ppt.

Ms. Levison and Mr. Philippou discussed the area to cover and agreed on Lancaster County, Blanchard and Old Mill Roads, and Ayer Road north of Rt. 2.

Ms. Levison said that she had already written to the DEP office in Worcester to request a phone call Friday, and that after her phone call on Wednesday she had asked DEP Worcester to plan to hold a public forum in Harvard if they reduce the PFAS contaminate level guidance. Mr. Philippou thought that was a good idea.

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting ended at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Levison, Chair

Documents Referenced:

- Email from MassDEP about possible changes to PFAS guidance
- Email from MassDEP with letters to Ayer Road Properties and Appleworks
- Email from Joan Elieysil to Libby Levison of April 18, 2019