

Harvard Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Town Hall, Volunteer Meeting Room
Tuesday, January 14, 2020
Approved: January 28, 2020

Board of Health Members present: Sharon McCarthy; Tom Philippou, Chair; Libby Levison (Via Skype).

Attending: Alison Flynn, Board of Health (“BOH”) Clerk; Ira Grossman, Health Agent, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (“NABH”); Lucy Zhu, A Joyful Adult Daycare; Cindy Russo, for L.D. Russo, Inc.; Mark Mikitarian and Willie Wickman, Fivesparks; Joan Eliyesil, The Harvard Press.

Mr. Philippou called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 200 Ayer Road: A Joyful Adult Healthcare Center, Food Service Application (2:05 p.m.)- Ms. Russo explained Ms. Zhu has been operating an adult healthcare center in Woburn for the past 3 years and would like to open a similar location at the Harvard Office Park. She indicated Ms. Zhu signed a lease in July, applied for the building permit to reconfigure the existing interior space in November, and has been working with Bridgette Braley of NABH regarding the food service permit since mid-December. Ms. Zhu and Ms. Russo explained that the daycare will serve its clients breakfast, a snack, and a catered lunch, when it is open, Monday through Saturday. The lunch will be brought in from a food preparation facility, KAM, in Quincy; the same facility which already provides lunch to the Woburn location. A sample menu was provided to the BOH members in their meeting packet. Ms. Zhu explained that if the food is not at a safe temperature upon arrival to the Harvard location, the large trays that it arrives in will be placed in counter-top water baths for warming. From the large trays, Ms. Zhu explained, the food is plated and then served on serving trays to the clients.

Mr. Grossman explained to the BOH that the building was not originally approved for food service, and therefore does not have an exterior grease trap. He indicated if there is an addition of oils and greases, an exterior grease trap would be required. Ms. Russo indicated that Mr. Russo suggested an internal grease trap with a cold water feed might be a cost-effective alternative to an exterior grease trap, the installation of which would require extensive damage to paved spaces. Mr. Grossman indicated that the consideration of an internal grease trap is a question for the plumbing inspector. Ms. Zhu explained that breakfast eggs will be cooked in rice cookers, all food is served on disposable plates with disposable silverware, the large trays in which the food is placed by the food preparation facility are returned uncleaned, and only the serving trays used to distribute the plated food will be washed in the dishwasher at Harvard Office Park. The BOH members expressed that the program, as explained by Ms. Zhu, will likely introduce little oil and grease to the septic system. Mr. Philippou suggested a provision be added to the food service permit which requires notification to the BOH if the plan changes; all were in agreement.

Ms. Russo also indicated that Ms. Braley suggested that the kitchen might need to be outfitted with appropriate cooking equipment if the lunch cannot be delivered on any given day. Ms. Zhu

indicated that they have a contract through the Department of Education to purchase the food, and if KAM cannot prepare the food on any day, she will obtain the lunch from a different food facility. The BOH members felt this was reassuring.

Ms. Russo questioned the timeline for review of the food service permit application. Mr. Grossman indicated that Ms. Braley has 30 days to review a plan once all required information has been submitted, and that her review has been challenging as information and documentation has been submitted piecemeal. Mr. Grossman agreed that it would be appropriate for Bridgette to join the BOH in person or via phone at the next meeting subsequent to her completed review if there are remaining questions regarding the food service application.

Ms. Russo asked whether it would be possible for the building permit to be approved while waiting for the food service permit. Mr. Grossman indicated it could not, as the approved kitchen layout will need to be submitted for the building permit.

b. Consider availability to attend Region 2 set-up drill in Shirley (2/20/20 at 9am)- Ms. Flynn advised that the PHEP set-up drill scheduled in Shirley on February 20th will be at either 9 am or 2 pm, and that two members from the Harvard BOH will need to be present in order for Harvard to receive credit. Mr. Grossman will attend on behalf of Harvard and Shirley; Ms. Flynn can attend at 9 am; Ms. McCarthy offered to attend at 2 pm; Mr. Philippou indicated he can attend at either time.

c. Consider purchase of copies of non-addressed recycling town-wide mailing- The members discussed the offer of AlphaGraphics to provide copies of the non-addressed town-wide mailing regarding recycling at \$0.10 per copy. Ms. McCarthy made the motion to purchase 100 copies; Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor.

d. Possible screening of Dark Waters at the Library- Ms. Levison asked the BOH to consider sponsoring a public showing of the movie “Dark Waters” at the Library. She reported that she was in touch with the Library to confirm that the library would be able to show the movie at no cost, and due to limited availability, she tentatively reserved the space for April 20th at 7 pm pending the BOH’s support for the event. Ms. Levison made a motion for the BOH to sponsor the event; Ms. McCarthy seconded. All were in favor. Ms. Levison reported that the Library also plans to hold a separate showing of the movie for the Council on Aging.

e. Concerns re wet carpet at the Old Library- Ms. Flynn provided the members with an estimate for steam cleaning of the carpet and walls in the basement of the Old Library Building brought to Ms. Flynn’s attention by Ms. Sobalvarro last week. – Mr Mikitarian, Representing Five Sparks, explained that the wet carpet in the basement was due to an overflowing toilet in the men’s room on November 12th. He indicated that the breaker to the sewage grinder pump was inadvertently turned off, leading to the overflow condition and was responsible for water permeating into the women’s room and the carpet outside the restrooms. Ms. Flynn also explained that Ms. Sobalvarro indicated there was an additional area of concern on the porch where carpet was recently installed that has been experiencing wetness due to systemic leaking from the roof and masonry. The BOH members asked Mr. Mikitarian and Ms. Wickman, representing the building tenant, Five Sparks, to provide the BOH with further details

Mr. Mikitarian explained the second area of wet carpet is due to leaking from the roof over the porch, and confirmed this is the same area which received a variance from the BoH to install a carpet. He indicated that the Old Library Accessibility Committee arranged for sealant application on the roof over the vestibule and a clean-out of the gutters which they felt was

contributing to the leaking. After these interventions there was no visible evidence of infiltration through November when just before Thanksgiving the carpet was first noted as being wet. That wetness has increased to significant pooling after a snow fall, a picture of which was shown to the BOH members.

The BOH members explained the public health risks associated with wet carpet. Mr. Grossman stated that wet carpet should be properly cleaned immediately to avoid mold growth. The members asked Mr. Grossman and Ms. Flynn to draft a letter to the Town Administration suggesting the carpet in both areas be removed and discarded, and the bathroom cleaned as quoted. Further, the BOH members requested the letter remind Mr. Bragan that any consideration for reinstallation of carpet will require a variance from the BOH, and that the BOH would not consider granting a variance for the porch area until the leaking has been rectified. Mr. Mikitarian requested a copy of the letter.

f. Update from FinCom budget meeting (1/8/20)- Mr. Philippou and Ms. Levison reported on their attendance at the budget meeting. They indicated they received compliments on the narrative, questions about the EEC position, and suggestions that RDP points be used to pay for the town-wide mailing.

g. Clerk and Health Agent Update-

- Ms. Flynn presented the invoice from AlphaGraphics for the town-wide recycling mailing in the amount of \$724.85, consistent with the quote received. Ms. McCarthy made the motion to submit the invoice for payment; Ms. Levison seconded.
- Mr. Grossman and Ms. Flynn provided an update on the progress of providing comments to Mr. Ryan on the draft Open Space Bylaw. The BOH members asked that Mr. Grossman continue to work with Mr. Ryan and bring them in for comment on considerations that are not specified by Title 5 or Mass. General Law.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Consider revisions to draft letter to Governor Baker regarding concerns regarding ground mosquito spraying- The BOH members agreed to continue revising this letter via e-mail with Ms. Flynn merging and reconciling comments.

b. 325 Ayer Road: Status of proposal for updates to septic disposal system & possible tenancy of SnoWerks- Mr. Grossman advised that Mr. Deane has not yet submitted any plans for review regarding his proposed upgrades to his septic system.

c. 23 Lovers Lane: Continued hearing of 9/24/19 (3:00 p.m.)- Ms. McCarthy made the motion to continue the hearing as the homeowner was unable to attend the meeting; Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor. Ms. Flynn will reach out to the homeowner to request an update prior to the next meeting, and will reschedule the discussion for 1/28/20.

d. Review draft submission to the Annual Town Report (due 1/27/20)- The members agreed to revise the draft submission via e-mail. Mr. Philippou will write the last section. Ms. Flynn will merge and reconcile comments.

e. Review draft response to continued complaints re Foxglove Apartments- The BOH members reviewed and approved a draft memorandum prepared by Mr. Grossman and Ms. Flynn.

f. Update re PFAS, including consideration of preparation of update to legislators- The members confirmed receipt of recent results of private well testing via e-mail, as well as advice from Town Counsel regarding what information can be shared with the public and The Harvard Press, and agreed Ms. Flynn should continue to refer residents with questions to Bob Bostwick or Marielle Stone at DEP, as previously advised by Andrea Briggs. Ms. McCarthy stated she plans to attend the Devens Restoration Advisory Board meeting on January 16th. Ms. Eliyesil asked that she be given the results of each of the six PFAS compounds considered by DEP for each of seven wells whose results for the sum of same six PFAS were greater than 20 ppt; the BOH agreed. Ms. Flynn will e-mail Ms. Eliyesil these results in a spreadsheet, without any identifiers which can connect the results to a property or owner. The BOH members would not confirm for Ms. Eliyesil whether the positive results were in clusters or if they were for private residences. They indicated they were unaware of how long the Army's offer to test for free will stand. Ms. McCarthy expressed that she feels the Army has gone above and beyond to offer the testing for free. The BOH members discussed that it would be prudent to wait for the DEP determination of a MCL before adding any testing requirements to Harvard's well regulations.

Ms. Levison suggested an update be sent to the legislators which thanks them for their continued support, advising that we now have more testing data, and suggesting they contact the Army for more information to assist in crafting appropriate legislature and vote through remediation funding. The members agreed with this idea.

g. Status re funding for PFAS remediation systems- Ms. McCarthy reported she has contacted multiple offices but has been unable to find out additional information regarding this funding.

h. Update regarding trash hauler regulation enforcement and RDP points- Mr. Philippou indicated he had additional conversation with Mr. Kilhart about sharing the RDP points, and expects that Mr. Kilhart will be sharing funds, but does not yet know how much.

i. Update from Deer Management Committee- Mr. Philippou indicated there was nothing to report from the Deer Management Committee.

j. Update from the Transfer Station Committee- Mr. Philippou and Ms. Levison reported that the SMART program is hitting it's Targets with a 24% waste reduction overall. Mr. Philippou indicated that Ms. Congdon stated it's likely that the reduction will be higher as the 24% includes extra cleanouts which occurred in anticipation of the start of the program. Mr. Philippou also explained that the Committee has learned that there have been incidents of residents expressing animosity toward the vendors of the bags, and will be asking frustrated residents to bring their concerns to the Committee instead of the vendors.

k. Update from Land Use Boards- Mr. Grossman and Ms. McCarthy provided an update from the LUB meeting's review of the draft permit guide.

l. Review Action Items- Action items were reviewed.

PERMITS

Septic permits were issued for each of the following:

- 198 Littleton Road- The BOH members reviewed the application package for replacement of the septic system. Ms. McCarthy made the motion to grant the variances requested in Stamski & McNary's letter of December 24, 2014, for Plan No. 6413.SDS.DWG, dated 10/18/19, revised 12/18/19. Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor.
- 256 Ayer Road- The BOH members reviewed the application package for an upgrade to service four bedrooms and three service bays. Ms. McCarthy made a motion to approve the variances requested in GPR's letter of December 17, 2019, for Job No. 181090, dated November 2019, revised December 17, 2019. Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor.
- 30 Cruft Lane- The BOH members reviewed the application package for an increase in the number of bedrooms with no variances requested, and issued a permit for the same.
- 68 Bolton Road- The BOH members reviewed the application package for a LUA. Mr. Philippou made the motion to approve the variances requested in GPR's variance request letter of December 18, 2019, for Job No. 191107, dated December 18, 2019.

After review of the permit application packages, a trash hauler permit was issued for Fiore Trucking. The members reviewed the application package for EL Harvey and asked that Mr. Grossman check to see whether the hauler is providing a dumpster or individual bins at the Inn, and Ms. Flynn request a hauling estimate for Harvard loads as required by the regulation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

Ms. McCarthy made the motion to approve the minutes of 11/26/19 as presented; Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. McCarthy made the motion to approve the minutes of 12/10/19 as amended; Mr. Philippou seconded. All were in favor.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA- Items for the next agenda were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT- Ms. Levison made the motion to adjourn at 3:54 p.m.; Ms. McCarthy seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Flynn, Clerk

Documents Referenced:

- Agenda
- Draft minutes of 11/26/19 and 12/10/20
- Trash hauler application packages for EL Harvey and Fiore Trucking
- Septic application packages for 198 Littleton Road, 256 Ayer Road, 30 Cruft Lane, and 68 Bolton Road

- Letter from Lucy Zhu of January 12, 2020, and sample menu
- Warila estimate for steam cleaning of the Old Library Building
- Photo taken on December 9, 2019 of the wet carpet on Old Library porch
- AlphaGraphics invoice of December 18, 2019
- Draft submission to the Annual Town Report