



Town of Brookfield

BOARD OF HEALTH

6 Central Street

Brookfield, Massachusetts 01506

Tel: (508) 867-2930 Ext. 22 / Fax: (508) 867-5091

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday July 28, 2021 AT 6:00 PM

Members Present

Michael P. Seery – Chairman
Ronald Wassmer – Vice Chairman
George Hirtle – Member

Also present:

Secretary- Brianna Dunn
Health Agent- Tricia Valiton
Brookfield Resident – Cindy Rendell

Chairman Seery called meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Review & Approve Minutes

None at this time.

Review & Approve Septic Designs

Board of Health Engineer, Mr. John Thomasian, reviewed and approved the following septic designs prior to the meeting:

- 5 Molasses Hill Rd– 7/1/2021

Sanitary Code Issues/Follow up

6:04 PM –Ms. Dunn presents applications for new Food Establishments and Mobile Food units that have been worked on and updated by Ms. Valiton. Ms. Dunn proposes to change the applications to the ones being presented.

Mr. Seery motions to accept applications, Mr. Wassmer seconds, AIF.

Ms. Valiton requests that she reviews applications for any food establishments; she is seeing that establishments/applications are not up to code in some of the towns she is working in, including Brookfield. She would like to have the opportunity to get everything up to code. Regarding mobile food units we (Health Agent & BOH) need to know where the base of operations is. It is unacceptable for the base of operations to be a residential kitchen. Mr. Hirtle asks how to handle situations where establishments change their menus; Ms. Valiton says that the bar needs to be held to the same standard for everyone.

At this time the Board, Ms. Valiton, and Secretary Brianna Dunn discuss the future of correspondence between everyone. It is decided it is best for food establishment applications to go through Brianna Dunn for her to correspond with Health Agent Tricia Valiton.

Ms. Valiton also seeks confirmation that she is to inspect food & housing establishments. She asks that if so, and if Brookfield permits manufactured housing establishments if she is to inspect these? She says if residents are paying for a permit, they should be receiving a service.

With Ms. Valiton handling inspections and Ms. Dunn handling correspondence, the Board decides to give Ms. Valiton signing authority on permits. Ms. Valiton will not sign without being transparent to the Board.

Mr. Seery motions to create and email and way for future correspondence to go through Brianna Dunn, Mr. Wassmer seconds, AIF.

Mr. Wassmer motions for Tricia Valiton to sign permits for manufactured housing, and food establishments to ensure full compliance, Mr. Seery seconds, AIF

6:30 PM – Cindy Rendell who resides on Central St. joins the meeting. She and Mr. Seery explain she suffers from lung cancer, and asthma. Her neighbors frequently have fires and Cindy says according to DEP air quality standards, her neighbors shouldn't be burning. She has contacted FD, and PD. What can BOH do, it is her "God given right to breath clean air".

Mr. Hirtle says there is a limited time people can burn brush, and clippings from their yards. Ms. Valiton says, if Cindy would like her to help she needs to start documenting the times the fires are going on, and it needs to be observed by Ms. Valiton herself, or another Board Member. Although Cindy can show she has complained before, Ms. Valiton needs to start her own investigation.

6:45 PM- Discussion of putting a complaint form online- any information can be redacted for public purposes but for investigation purposes anonymous complaints will not be acted upon.

Mr. Seery motions to accept complaint form and process, Mr. Wassmer seconds – AIF

6:47 PM- Mr. Seery asks that when disposal system plans have been approved by John Thomasian, the Board is aware. Mr. Hirtle asks if wetlands are taken into consideration, Mr. Seery responds that if a design falls in a buffer zone conservation would be involved first then it would go to Brookfield's engineer, John Thomasian for final approval.

6:50 PM- Ms. Valiton informs the Board that because Epic Pastries base of operations is a residential kitchen, they must provide results for an annual well test, if this residence has well water.

6:55 PM – Ms. Valiton informs the Board that it is state law that if a beach is permitted as a bathing beach they are to be tested weekly for coliform/e-coli counts.

7:00 PM- Ms. Dunn asks if South Pond is a bathing beach, a resident inquired why that is not tested by the Brookfield BOH. Mr. Seery states it is boating only.

7:02 PM- Oakholm Brewery holds a food permit, but they do not have a kitchen. They should not be permitted as a food establishment, per Ms. Valiton. Ms. Valiton informs the Board she is going to be working with them regarding their farmers markets, and mobile food trucks that visit the establishment. It is the mobile food units and vendors at Oakholm that need to be permitted, not Oakholm themselves.

7:10 PM – Rod and Gun Club closed due to Covid-19. Ms. Valiton has heard they have been open. She informs the Board that if they are producing food for public consumption they must have a food permit. If they are producing food only for events they should have temporary food permits. Mr. Seery believes they have only been doing benefits and potlucks to date.

7:13 PM – Ms. Valiton informs the Board of her Food Manager Safety Certification Class taking place in September at the West Warren Senior Center if there are any establishments, or people seeking to be certified.

100K-200K Program- Applications

None at this time.

Payroll and expense reports

6:02 PM - Mr. Seery motions to approve expenses and payroll presented at this time, Mr. Wassmer seconds – AIF

- WALNUT PRINTING SPECIALITES INC – TRANSFER PERMITS (\$379.00)
- CASELLA WASTE – (\$5,863.74)
- WASTEZERO – (\$1,065.00) out of RDP account
- BRIANNA DUNN – W.E 7/8/21 (\$51.00) 7/21/21 (\$136.00)
- MIKE SEERY – W.E. 7/8/2021 (\$55.17) 7/21/21 (\$110.34)
- JAMES MILNER – W.E 7/8/2021 (\$293.86) 7/21/21 (\$595.28)
- GEORGE HIRTLE – W.E 7/8/2021 (\$66.24) 7/21/21 (\$134.24)

Transfer Station Issues

None at this time.

7:15 PM- Adjourn

Mr. Seery motions to adjourn, Mr. Wassmer seconds, AIF