

BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes for Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 7:00 PM
Remote Participation

- 7:00 Community Input
 Minutes of 6/21/23
 Administrative Reports
 Public Health Nurse Report (Tricia McGean)
- 7:30 Art’s Specialties at Ferns (Artur Nergaryan)

DISSCUSSION ITEMS

- Technical Assistance Grant - update
- Accessory Apartment Guidelines – continued discussion
- Benfield Farms FAST System and Housing Inspection Reports

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting agenda lists all topics reasonably anticipated by the Board of Health at the time of posting. Additional topics not anticipated may be discussed at the meeting under the agenda item New Business.

Meeting Dates - TBD – Summer Schedule

Upcoming Dates –

Attendance members: Patrick Collins Chairman, David Erickson, Cathy Galligan, Tony Mariano, Jennifer Wall

Attendance nonmembers: Linda Fantasia Health Agent, Trish McGean, Erin Green, David Flannery, Ann Loree Regional Inspector, David Model, Ravi

1. Community Input

Collins opened the BOH meeting at 7:02pm, there was no community input.

2. Minutes of 6/21/23

Mariano moved to approve the amended minutes of 6/21/23, Ericson seconded the motion which was then approved unanimously.

3. Administrative report

See Below

4. Public Health

See notes below.

5. Art’s Specialties at Fern’s

Ann Loree, Regional Health Inspector, did a reinspection of Fern's on June 30, 2023. She spent about 2 hours looking mainly at the items that were previously out of compliance; the faulty refrigeration unit had been taken out of service and is waiting for repairs. Loree noted that the first report had many temperatures out of range, all pertaining to the unit which has been taken out of service. There are still a number of things needing correction, the most important is properly training the staff and management. There are now thermometers in all the cold bowls, there is now proper provision for hand washing. The basement, kitchen, and deli are being cleaned and the cutting boards have been replaced, they also need a produce sink as the new owner wants to use fresh, rather than prepackaged, lettuce. Staff will be taking a course on proper food handling on 7/15 and need to be properly certified. Loree is not concerned at this point; she has seen a lot of progress.

6. 588 Concord Road: request for accessory apartment (David Flannery-owner)

This one-bedroom apartment has been in the works for years but has been delayed because of Covid. This is on a 4-acre lot on Concord Road that was purchased in 1984. The owner built a 3-bedroom cape with a barnlike attached garage containing about 450 sq. ft. for an accessory apartment. The septic was designed in 2004-2005 and built in 2006 and was designed to serve 5 bedrooms and a garbage grinder.

Mariano moved that the board approve the accessory apartment plan noting that it has met the septic and well requirements. Galligan seconded the motion which was then approved unanimously.

7. Staffing

Fantasia has been talking to town planner Julia Mercier about the option of hiring an engineering intern. This would address the Master Plan by supporting the large development workgroup. The planning board is also interested in utilizing an engineering intern. Locating septic systems entails going through as built plans and scanning them as necessary, additionally, the Large Development work group has come up with procedures for checking compliance in multifamily developments.

Mariano thinks it is a great idea but we have been talking about someone to look at compliance monitoring, could this intern help with that? Fantasia said that hopefully they would deal with both projects. Erin will be looking at as built plans but we have only been collecting electronic plans for the last 3-5 years.

In terms of the assistant to the health agent position, we had hoped that Ryan McLane would be here tonight. David Model reported that Ryan had approached him today and indicated that the personnel position wasn't on the agenda (incorrect). McLane would like to meet with the full BOH to discuss his proposal for viewing the assistant position in the larger context of town staffing. The BOH noted that it had approved hiring a replacement assistant health agent on two separate occasions and questioned the need for the meeting. Members expressed concern over the delay; Galligan commented on the thoughtful and comprehensive process to establish the position in the first place, in cooperation with the Personnel Board and then-Board of Selectmen; Wall noted the importance of everyone being heard but expressed great concern about the lack of prioritization for health and safety; Erickson did not see the need for a Special Meeting but agreed; Collins made it clear that BOH has ultimate authority to decide on the position and while it is imperative to fill the position as soon as possible it may be possible to continue with the job search in parallel with McLane's proposal. The BOH will hold a Special Meeting on 7/26/23 for the single Agenda item.

Benfield

Since Collins has recused himself on Benfield, Mariano chaired this discussion. We understand that the septic maintenance contract is in place with New England Engineering (Kent Oldfield). Fantasia forwarded Oldfield's email report which noted that ammonia was high but is coming down. No sampling results were provided. The contract was in place May 29th, unfortunately, there was no monitoring from January to May 29. There was an issue with the blower that was corrected; this may have contributed to the odor complaints. John Metivier conducted a housing inspection and reported to Linda that Mal (property manager) was cooperative in addressing the issues. Fantasia has sent a letter to the Housing Trust requesting a joint meeting with BOH. Mariano asked about outstanding issues with the residents and Fantasia said that the residents feel that the management is working with them. It is important that when complaints are received, we must make sure the resident went to Mal first.

8. Technical Assistance Grant Update

Fantasia is in the process of applying for \$20,000 for special work to inform residents about the status of the old Daisy service station remediation. David Foss, who was the Fire Department spill contractor (now at DEP) referred Linda to Amy at his previous firm. Amy will help draft the budget and scope of work. Joe Jammallo (LSP for Daisy's) is also willing to help. The scope of the work is two-fold: (1) summarize the chronology and actions, current status and proposed actions, and (2) speak to the Carlisle Village Association to educate them and learn about the systems they have in place and actions they are taking. The application is due October 13.

9. Accessory Apartment Guidelines

Fantasia has been speaking with Julia Mercier who initially was not aware of the scope of what has been happening with accessory apartments and bylaw. It is becoming clear that the accessory apartment bylaw is being stretched beyond its intended purpose. Fantasia described two important steps: refining the application process (Planning Board) and changing the bylaw to clear up deficiencies. The latter would not happen until the spring town meeting. At this point BOH and PB should form a workgroup that includes key players. The workgroup would be run by the Planning Board and would look at fixing the application process regulations and creating proposed bylaws. Fantasia hopes that the workgroup will be established in the next couple of weeks.

10. Adjourn

Erickson moved to adjourn, Mariano seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 20:45
The next meeting will be 8/23/23 with a special meeting to be scheduled next week.

Respectfully submitted,
David Erickson,
Recorder

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS
July 19, 2023

COAHS – National Council on Aging – “Your senior center will receive a one-time, up-front \$10,000 payment to support the administration of 100 or more COVID and flu vaccinations between the date the contract is executed through April 30, 2024. These vaccinations can be any combination of COVID and flu vaccinations. We ask that you target these vaccination efforts toward the older adults in your community, but also allow you to count any vaccinations given through this initiative, regardless of the age of the participant.” BOH will work with COA on proposals. This could result in savings to ARPA Clinic funds and allow Carlisle to do Booster Clinics and Public Flu Clinic.

Town Hall Boil Water Order – due to E. coli in raw water 7/12/23. SWSS is investigating. Retesting this week. 7/13/23 sample OK. Need two repeat clear tests to lift Order. DEP advising.

Well Sampling – results are being compiled in a spreadsheet; still waiting for Gross Alpha, and a few VOC’s; Erin is working with Cathy on a ppt summary. Northeast Labs has been answering questions from residents.

Letter to Carlisle Housing Trust – still in process due to new information received on FAST and Building complaints.

Garrison Place – FAST testing 6/5/23 and 6/14/23 – all parameters within normal limits

Ongoing Projects
PFAS Resources

Carlisle BOH July 19, 2023—PHN Report

Since May 1st

- 11 Lyme cases
- 2 Anaplasmosis cases

Aborvirus~Erin did a great article for the newsletter. Make sure to read. Thank you, Erin! MDPH reported the first WNV in mosquito samples not humans(!) in Brookline and Worcester. Not surprising given the rainy weather. Encourage people to use EPA approved repellents, empty standing water in things like wheelbarrows, wear appropriate clothing and limit outside activity between dusk and dawn.

Smoke! Carlisle air quality considered Poor today and projected poor until Saturday when it will bump up to “fair.” People with underlying respiratory conditions should limit their outside exposure, particularly while exercising.

June 1st was the last confirmed COVID+ case into MAVEN.

Slight uptick in wastewaters #s but still relatively low as people are gathering in groups outside and many with immunity from prior illness and/or vaccination.

New monovalent COVID vaccine being manufactured. Not yet available. Likely shift to a seasonal vaccine like flu. More to come.

Senior flu clinic with Cataldo for 120 residents booked for Friday Oct 6th. We now must pay for staff time.

- \$75/hr. per staff, 3 clinicians, to equal \$900 if 4 hr. clinic. Working out details on length of time as this seems long for 120 people.
- They will bill insurance. If not insured, the town picks up \$48/high dose.

Fridge is getting procured by McKesson and will be stored at Lincoln PD because Dr. Kanner (Lincoln BOH) signed the vaccine orders so vaccine storage must get linked to a fridge in that town.

40 high doses (4x the antigen as regular dose)

10 Flu block for homebound residents. (Recombinant-does not use egg. For 18+, 30% more effective than standard dose)

Jim Hall at DPW wants STB first week in Sept as behind in work related to weather and staff off . He has set a reminder to reach out first week in Sept.

Old Home Day was a smashing success. We offered blood pressure, tick educational materials. Sheila Dibb, from Metrowest MRC, joined our table and had recruited residents who wanted more info on the Medical Reserve Corps.