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Acton Board of Health

Room 126, Acton Town Hall
Acton, MA 01720

June 9, 2014

Members Present: Michael Kreuze -Chairman, William McInnis, Dr. William Taylor, Mark Conoby and Joanne Bissetta and Pam Harting-Barrat-Associate with Voting Rights

Staff Present: Doug Halley- Health Director
Weiyuan Sun-Administration

Other Present: Peg Mikkola, Heather York, Morene Bodner, David Carlisle, Sean Murray, Ann Shubert, Bettina Abe, Karen O'Neill, William Shubert, Isabella V Choate, Dia Chigas, Basil Chigas and Jeff Puchon

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Nursing Services- Update

Ms. York, Nursing Administrator updated the Board regarding the status of the Nursing Service. Ms. York stated that the 2015 town meeting voted down the requested \$60,000 to help fund the Nursing Service. Ms. York also stated that referral of patients have decreased as a patient is not able to choose their own provider; as well as changes in insurance policies and receiving referrals from patients that have no ability to pay. The seasonal flu vaccinations have also decreased from last year. Currently we receive some free vaccinations from the Mass DPH, however, Ms. York indicated that by year 2016, there will be no seasonal flu vaccines provided from the state. The Town of Acton will have to purchase their own vaccines for the community. In addition insurance companies are not covering home care and the free care and exempt for low income services patients has increased 2%-3% than last year. The percentage will increase in the next five years. There are some additional options to keep the Nursing services as follows:

1. Nursing Department is closed totally.
2. A Partnership as to find agents to work with the Nursing services and community.
Currently only two towns, Stow and Acton provide home care there for the residents.

Ms. York stated that many residents have expressed their support of the Nursing Service for the budget for next town meeting.

9 Baxter Road- Variance

On February 10, 2014, the Board of Health voted to grant a variance from 310 CMR 15.299 to allow the installation of a sewage ejector pump for a below grade bathroom with a septic tank that did not meet compliance with this regulation. The Board voted the following:

1. The existing 1000 gallon septic tank shall be inspected by a licensed Title 5 inspector and that report shall be submitted to the Health Department.
2. An effluent tee filter shall be installed in existing tank.

3. Upon transfer of ownership the tank shall be upgraded to 1,500 gallons. Mr. Purchon hired Windriver Environmental to complete the installation of the tee filter and the Health Department conducted an inspection to ensure compliance of that installation. Mr. Purchon feels that he complied with protocol stated above and requests that the Board vote to accept the reports already submitted without the need of a formal report. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board voted to grant approval to accept the documents as submitted from Windriver without a formal report for the property at 9 Baxter Road. The vote was 4-0 with Mr. Conoby abstaining from the vote.

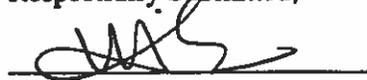
315 Nagog Hill Road-Complaint

Ms. and Mr. Chigas residents of 315 Nagog Hill Road addressed their concerns about the storage of manure on their neighbor's horse farm located at 307 Nagog Hill Road. The Health Department received a complaint regarding the manure storage, inspected the property and found piles of compost, not manure. However, Mr. and Ms. Chigas did not agree with that assessment. Prior to the official complaint the Health Department requested each horse farm to submit their plans of proper management and storage protocols concerning manure. The Health Department reviewed the submitted plans and decided to work on updating the Acton Board of Health Rules and Regulations- Article 12. In addition the Health Department has walked the land owned by the Concord Water District with the water department staff and the Concord Water Department has been monitoring the drinking water. The Board listened to Ms. and Mr. Chigas concerns regarding the storage of horse manure and compost and the impacts they may have on the environment and the people adjacent to that storage. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis and seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously upheld the Health Department's assessment that the compost piles did not fall under the requirements of the Article 12.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:27P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Weiyuan Sun
Acton Board of Health



Michael Kreuze -Chairman
Acton Board of Health