

Acton Board of Health  
November 19, 2018

Members Present: Joanne Bissetta- Chairman, Michael Kreuze, William Taylor and William McInnis, Thomas Jacoby, Associate voting for absent Mark Conoby and Rekha Singh, Associate.

Staff Present: Sheryl Ball- Health Director  
Weiyuan Sun- Health Administrator

Others Present: Lester Hartman, Ryan Carter, David Stone and Peggy Mikkola

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

**Minutes**

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated October 15, 2018 with corrections.

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Kreuze., the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated March 16, 2016 with corrections.

**Tobacco Regulation Discussion**

Dr. Hartman discussed with the Board the impacts of tobacco/vape products including JUUL and Suorin. These products are currently very popular with the high school population. Dr. Hartman strongly recommended the Board restrict all flavors of e-cigarettes or other vaping products to only be sold at vape stores that are over 21. Currently these products are sold in convenience stores and that is where approximately 70% of kids that vape are purchasing their supplies. Dr. Hartman feels that restricting the places where these products are sold will reduce kids' exposure to these products. This restriction is a growing regulation and to date there are 127 towns signed on. The Board thanked Dr. Hartman for coming to the meeting and will take his concerns under advisement.

**Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 16-18 Cowdrey Lane**

The Health Department has received an emergency beaver trapping permit request for beaver activities at 16-18 Cowdrey Lane with flooding occurring on side property in close proximity to two private septic systems. The Health Department has confirmed the flooding and based on this information the Health Department recommends that Board approve a 10 day emergency beaver trapping permit for 16-18 Cowdrey Lane beginning on November 5, 2018, giving the Town and its agent the right to use restricted traps and breach the dams or dikes subject to the conditions of the Conservation Commission. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to retroactively approve a beaver trapping permit for the property located on 16-18 Cowdrey Lane on November 5, 2018 for a period of ten days.

### **Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 908 Main Street**

The Health Department has received an emergency beaver trapping permit request for beaver activities at 908 Main Street with flooding occurring on side property on close proximity to two private septic systems. The Health Department has confirmed and based on this information, recommends that the Board approve a 10 day emergency permit retroactively, beginning on November 1, 2018, giving the Town and its agent the right to use restricted traps and breach the dams or dikes subject to the conditions of the Conservation Commission. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to approve a beaver trapping permit, retroactively for the property located on 908 Main Street on November 1, 2018 for a period of ten days.

### **Acton Woods- Water Use Records- Elite Freestyle Karate**

The Acton Woods Plaza has requested that Elite Freestyle Karate occupy a 2,000 sqft space previously occupied by a retail facility. According to title 5 this space is allocated 100 gallons per day. Based on the water records provided from Elite Freestyle Karate's location in North Reading this site requires 48 gpd. In order to utilize water flow records this space will need 96 gpd which is under the 100 gpd allocated. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the variance to allow Elite Freestyle Karate to occupy the space at Acton Woods with the following conditions:

1. Establishment water use records shall be submitted to the Health Department on quarterly basis to ensure compliance every 6 months.
2. The Board of Health may suspend or revoke approval should the use result in a threat or hazard to the public or environmental health.
3. If water records exceed allocated flow, the owner shall appear before the Board to discuss corrective action.

### **Signature of Board Letter to Governor Gas Line**

The Board continued discussion of the proposed letter to Governor Baker regarding the Natural Gas Line pipeline from their previous meeting on October 15, 2018. The Board reviewed the information submitted by Jude Aronstein regarding a comprehensive assessment of the health impacts of fracked gas infrastructure and will further edit the letter and discuss at the next available Board meeting.

### **Hotel/Motel Regulation**

The Health Department updated the Board with ongoing housing complaints at the Concordian Motel, located 71 Hosmer St Route 2 E. The Health Department is concerned with some outstanding health violations at that site and would like a regulation to help address these concerns. John Mangiaratti, Town Manager has created a Concordian working group comprised of Police, Fire, Housing, COA, Health, Building, etc to work on issues related to health, safety, building, and welfare of the residents residing there. The Board discussed the proposed regulation and as written they felt that this should be approved at the Selectmen level as it addresses both security and health.

### **Discussion, Carolyn Platt/Plastic Bag Ban**

The Board continued discussion of the plastic bag ban for single use checkout bags on November

17, 2018. Ms. Platt pointed out that 88 towns of 351 towns has implemented a plastic bag ban already. The Board thanked Ms. Platt for attending.

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Mr. McInnis, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:55PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Weiyuan Sun  
Acton Board of Health



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Joanne Bissetta - Chairman,  
Acton Board of Health