



Acton Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2023

7:30 PM.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS VIA ZOOM

Present:

Virtual Members Present: Mark Conoby, Dr. William Taylor, William McInnis, Michael Kreuze and Dr. Rekha Singh

Virtual Associate Members Present: None

Virtual Staff Present: Sheryl Ball-Health Director, Matt Murphy, Jill Salamon, Public Health Nurse, Matthew Dow and Felix Garcia.

Others Present: Himaja Nagireddy, Select Board Liaison, Alma Sandman, Josh Lariscy, Nicole Graham, Michael Schulze, Colleen Graham, Elaine Doyle, Helena Chan, Janice Ward, Mark Buxbaum, Gilbert Carley, Kimberly Kuhn, Marion Richardson, Erich Kronewett, Rachel Rubin, Peter, Stephen Liu, Aam, Alissa Nicol, Phone user, Vanessa, Xiao Guo, Patrick Kronewett, William Klauer, Rachel Wulsin, Drew Vardakis, Bhanu Gopal, George and Alyssa Rautenberg, Kate Crosby, Ruth and Jill Okin, Martin Pitwood, Santina, Elena Petrov, Angela Morrison, Gari Gatwood, Lauren Rubin, Lyn Ferguson, Brie Fortmuller, Kathleen Pagano, AAM, Emma Mrozicki, Nigam Trivedi, Julie, Sharon Logan, Roxane W. and Puru. There was also one call in user.

1. Opening

Chairman – Mark Conoby opened the meeting at 7:32 P.M. A script was read that was provided by the Town stating why the meetings are virtual and this meeting of the Board of Health was called to order.

2. Regular Business

Health Director Update

Ms. Ball informed the Board that the Health Division presented to the Human Services Committee last week outlining all duties that we are responsible for.

Ms. Ball also mentioned that unfortunately we have had a recent uptick in Hoarding cases but thankfully we are making progress with residents to ensure they are living in a safe environment.

The Board also wished Dr. Jacoby best wishes on his retirement from the Board.

Ms. Ball also mentioned that a geothermal well head was hit at the schools during construction at 75 Spruce Street and a Licensed Site Professional was called in to assist with proper clean up of



the Propylene Glycol. Ms Ball also indicated that the schools are still working on some action items and they are working closely with the Building Department to address those. It should also be noted that all safety concerns were addressed before the issuance of the temporary COO.

Ms. Ball also mentioned that Acton received another allotment of Covid Home test kits and they are available free of charge.

Nursing – Update

Ms. Salamon was present and stated that State is no longer following residents from Uganda as they have declared the outbreak of Ebola in that country over.

Ms. Salamon stated that we have had 23 cases of COVID this past month but this is only for those that were reported through PCR test. Ms. Salamon also mentioned that the CDC has a national data board for flu surveillance, as does the State and the State monitors flu activity with this data base and asked the Boar if they are interested in seeing that. Ms. Salamon also stated that we continue to monitor our residents in long term care facilities and thankfully the cases are very mild in those facilities. Ms. Salamon also stated that we are continuing to vaccinate some homebound residents as needed.

The Board thanked Ms. Salamon and asked if we have a handle on RSV cases but Ms. Salamon stated that this is not a reportable disease but it is known it is in Acton due to the large number of calls from our daycare providers.

Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 4 Duston Lane

The Health Division has received a request for an emergency permit for beaver trapping due to beaver activity with flooding occurring on 4 Duston Lane. The Health Department conducted an inspection of these areas along with the Natural Resources Director and has confirmed that in accordance with the Rules and Regulations that a threat to Human Health and Safety by beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of a residential septic system.

Unfortunately, it was also determined that this site is not a candidate for alternative solutions other than trapping due to the location of the beaver activity and the surface waters of the water bodies. All impoundments are level and in order to use alternative methods (i.e. pipes installed into the dam) the flooded area needs to be higher in one location rather than level to help with water flow.

Based on this information, the Health Department recommends that the Board of Health approve a 10 day emergency permit, beginning on Wednesday, January 10, 2023, giving the licensed trapper and its agent the right to use restricted traps and breach the dams or dikes subject to the conditions of the Conservation Commission.

In addition, the department would recommend that the Board approve that the applicant, should the 10 day emergency permit not solve the beaver problems be granted a 10 day extension.

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to grant an emergency beaver trapping permit to the property located at 4 Duston Lane beginning



on January 10, 2023 for a period of 10 days giving the licensed trapper the right to use restricted traps and breach the dam or dikes.

The chair took roll call and all were in favor.

Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 8 Freedom Farm Lane, 86 Arlington St and 98 Charter Road

The Health Division has received a request for an emergency permit for beaver trapping due to beaver activity with flooding occurring over multiple properties located at 8 Freedom Farm Lane, 86 Arlington St and 98 Charter Road. The Health Department conducted an inspection of these areas along with the Natural Resources Director and has confirmed that in accordance with the Rules and Regulations that a threat to Human Health and Safety by beaver or muskrat-caused flooding of a residential septic system.

Unfortunately, it was also determined that this site is not a candidate for alternative solutions other than trapping due to the location of the beaver activity and the surface waters of the water bodies. All impoundments are level and in order to use alternative methods (i.e. pipes installed into the dam) the flooded area needs to be higher in one location rather than level to help with water flow.

Based on this information, the Health Department recommends that the Board of Health approve a 10 day emergency permit, beginning on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, giving the licensed trapper and its agent the right to use restricted traps and breach the dams or dikes subject to the conditions of the Conservation Commission.

In addition, the department would recommend that the Board approve that the applicant, should the 10 day emergency permit not solve the beaver problems be granted a 10 day extension.

On a motion made by Dr. Singh, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to grant an emergency beaver trapping permit to the property located at 8 Freedom Farm Lane, 86 Arlington St and 98 Charter Road beginning on January 18, 2023 for a period of 10 days giving the licensed trapper the right to use restricted traps and breach the dam or dikes.

The chair took roll call and all were in favor.

Hazardous Materials Control Permit Application– Continued from 11/15/22 – 100 Discovery Way.

Ms. Ball stated that since the last Board of Health meeting the location of the proposed energy storage facility has now been relocated back to the original area but will now be located approximately 256' from the residential neighborhood. The applicant has also submitted responses to address the concerns that the Board raised at the last BOH meeting and those responses were included in the packet. We are still waiting for some updates that will need to be finalized prior to start up of the facility.



Mr. Lariscy stated there's been a number of changes in new information submitted since the last meeting and would like to go over those with the Board tonight. These changes include:

1. Mr. Lariscy stated there is a new proposed location and the actual layout and design has changed which they believe is an improvement from overall safety standpoint.
2. Mr. Lariscy further stated that they are working on all other documents the Board raised at our previous meeting.

Matt Murphy from the Town will be assisting staff with fielding concerns from the public. The public and Board also asked for the following information:

1. Please forward addresses of other BlueWave sites along with their Emergency Response and O & M plans. Provide cumulative totals of hours that they other sites have run and incidents per hours at 1 million total operating hours.
2. Provide a noise mitigation plan to include additional screening material if and when it may be needed and ensure the sound expert understands that there will be trees removed prior to construction and have them include language like, if a fence is proposed we anticipate that the sound would be reduced by X or whatever they see fit to help reduce potential noise.
3. Ensure that tenants of 100 Discovery Way are notified about this project.
4. Flag area of battery storage and mark trees that are being removed.
5. Can the motion detection light be relocated as to not disturb residents? Or can it be adjusted away from residential homes?
6. Update ERP with correct police and fire numbers Fire 978-929-7722 or Police 978-929-7711. Ensure there is a section added regarding a potential impact to all sensitive receptors (both residential and tenants of 100 Discovery) in the event of a spill, fire or off gassing event and plans to address this event and identify levels and plans that may be required. Clarify response time for technician to arrive at site in the event of an issue. Please add section to include protection of water runoff that could potentially impact the wetlands or runoff into catch basins.
7. In the event of a fire or off gassing event, what model is being used to calculate the potential evacuation and what levels of gas, specifically HF would levels of concentration would be present within the 250' of the nearby residential abutters.
8. At what age would there be more concerns with the risk of these batteries? Or identify future impacts as the batteries age.
9. Provide insurance documents, types of insurance and amounts.
10. Provide O & M contract.
11. Provide risk assessment plan.

The chair polled the Board and asked if they were ready to vote. Some Board members were ready to vote but others asked to see the above information before a decision is made, however, the majority wanted to wait so the Board will continue this application request until the next available meeting.



Minutes – November 15, 2022

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board voted to accept the minutes of November 15, 2022. The Chair took roll call and the vote was 4-0-1(abstain)

Next Meeting

The next BOH meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2023.

4. Adjournment

On a motion made by Dr. Singh, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:32 PM. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

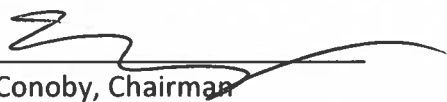
Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting;

- Town of Acton script for boards and committees opening meeting
- Board of Health agenda
Emergency Beaver trapping permit application, map and recommendations from Health staff for 4 Duston Lane and 8 Freedom Farm Lane, 86 Arlington St and 98 Charter Road
- 100 Discovery Way, Health recommendations, BlueWave response to Board's concerns, application, sound study, sds sheets, map of proposed location, test for thermal runaway and ERP.
- Minutes from 11-15-22

Respectfully Submitted,



Sheryl Ball
Acton Board of Health



Mark Conoby, Chairman
Acton Board of Health