

Becket Board of Health Meeting  
Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00 am  
557 Main Street, Becket Ma 01223

Board of Health Members present: Gale LaBelle, Laurel Burgwardt , Howard Lerner.

Board of Health Members absent: None.

Public present: Ed Gibson, Laura Kitross, Colleen O'Conner, Robert Ronzio, Jeanne Pryor.

Meeting called to order at 10:06 am.

Ms. LaBelle opens the meeting stating the date and time. Ms. LaBelle advises that there are agendas on the table for anyone who wants them.

Ms. LaBelle reads from the Board of Health's opening remarks, this meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws regarding public health and safety, Regulations of the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection as well as the bylaws of the Town of Becket. All decisions require approval of a majority of the quorum of the Board of Health members present. Motions ending in a tie will not be acted upon until such time as a majority can be achieved. In unusual cases the Rule of Necessity may be invoked to reach a decision.

Ms. LaBelle goes on to introduce the board members present. Ms. LaBelle explains the Open Meeting Law , MGL c. 30A subsection 20, and asks anyone in the audience if they are going to make a video or audio recording of this meeting; Mr. Robert Ronzio advises that he will be making an audio recording.

Ms. LaBelle advises the public present that it is the intention of the board to proceed with the posted agenda in the order in which the items are listed, and again reminds all present that agendas are available for anyone who wants them.

Ms. LaBelle advises that everyone in attendance should understand that the public has the right to attend this meeting and observe the board as it deliberates but the public does not have the right to speak out or participate as they see fit.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014- The Review and approval of the meeting minutes are tabled.

Ms. LaBelle advises due to time restraints she is going to change the order of some of the agenda item, thus allowing Laura Kitross from the Berkshire Public Health Alliance to make a brief presentation.

Ms. Kitross is introduced by Ms. LaBelle. Ms. Kitross begins by explaining that they currently have 22 Berkshire County towns that are members. Ms. Kitross passes out the “Public Health Nursing Programs” brochure, briefly explaining some of the services that the Alliance provides to different towns to include disease report surveillance, disease outbreak management, flu vaccination clinics, and wellness checks that are provided in conjunction with the housing inspector. Ms. LaBelle asks if monthly blood pressure checks are also included; Ms. Kitross explains that is a service that they currently offer. Ms. Kitross also passes out a statistics sheet as well as a cost sheet. Mr. Lerner asks if they run a needle exchange program, Laura states that they do not at this time.

Ms. LaBelle advises that they will go ahead and look at the costs involved vs. the services that are offered and go ahead and make a decision rather quickly. Ms. LaBelle advises that the Board will let the Alliance know as soon as their decision is made and thanks Laura for her presentation today.

Public Input- Ms. Colleen O’Conner introduces herself and explains to the board that she is in attendance once again to discuss an ongoing problem that needs to be rectified. Ms. O’Conner reminds board members present that she has attended meetings before to question the property located at 3529 Jacobs Ladder Road. Ms. O’Conner states that there is no way possible that this property has a passing Title V and she explains that she disagrees with the Becket Health Agent, Scott Kryzanik, and would like to see any documents or paperwork supporting his decision.

Mr. Robert Ronzio, introduces himself and explains that he is in attendance today representing Sherwood Forest Lake District. Mr. Ronzio briefly explains the beaver issue they are currently having, advising that the property that is having trouble is located on Nottingham Lake. Mr. Ronzio requests a 10-day Emergency beaver / muskrat permit. Ms. Burgwardt makes a motion to grant the Emergency Beaver permit, to begin on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, as requested. Ms. LaBelle seconds motion; Mr. Lerner abstains. The motion is passed and Ms. LaBelle advises that she will write out the permit for Mr. Ronzio immediately following the meeting.

Next, Mr. Ronzio states that he would like an update on 9 Needle Lane as was discussed at the last Board of Health meeting. Mr. Ronzio advises that he is concerned that there were one or more wells within 100 feet of the septic systems.

Ms. Burgwardt states that she has the documents in question, advising she will get a copy to Mr, Ronzio.

Mr. Ronzio also advises that he has one more issue to be discussed, explaining that there is a well located on Porcupine Court that has been left open and really needs to be capped. He asks Ms. LaBelle to please make sure this is taken care of in a timely manner.

Old Business-

Laurel briefly gives her report to the Board members present, explaining her activities for the past month. Ms. LaBelle agrees that it has been a very busy month, further advising that Ms. Arlene Adler is currently helping in getting out the beach permits on time.

Mrs. LaBelle asks the Board to consider a discussion on the purchase of a transfer station permit for an elderly resident that is having difficulty affording one, she advises that she thinks it would be areal nice gesture on the part of the Board. Howard strongly advises against it, stating that they would be opening Pandora's box.

Ms. Burgwardt informs Board of Health members that she has ordered and received some great brochures that were absolutely free and will be handing them out to the public at the village fair.

Ms. LaBelle advises that she is currently looking into a list that was provided to her from the State, stating that there were currently three beaches in the Town that were not being water tested. Mr. Ronzio asks if any of the three are in the Forest; Ms. LaBelle replies no. Ms. LaBelle advises that all public beaches need to be water tested and permitted.

Correspondence- Read and reviewed

Budget- Board members briefly discuss. Board members discuss the fact that the request from the Board, asking the Selectmen to transfer monies from the salaries account into the expense account has been approved.

Board re-organization: Mr. Howard Lerner makes a motion to keep the board structure the as it currently is, Ms. Burgwardt seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Ms. LaBelle briefly brings up the topic of e-cigarettes and the fact that we will soon see new rules and regulations surrounding these as their popularity grows.

Ms. Pryor asks Ms. LaBelle if she could please send out a letter to all of the private communities stating what the new policies are that are being put into place, regarding the beach permitting. Mr. Lerner volunteers to go ahead and do the research as well as notify the communities as to what their responsibilities are.

Ms. LaBelle advises Board members that she will be attending the Selectman's meeting to propose the new fee schedule as recommended by the Board of Health.

Board of Health members briefly discuss a residence on Wells Road in Sherwood Forest that desperately needs some attention from the Board of Health. Members discuss the fact that the roof is currently falling in.

Ms. LaBelle advises that she along with the Town Administrator have reviewed and signed the contract with BRPC. Mr. Ed Gibson states there is an \$8000 cap on it.

Mr. Ronzio and Mr. Gibson briefly discuss. Mr. Gibson states that even though the cap is \$8000, it does not need to go up for bid as the amount has risen to be up to \$10,000 and still not be necessary to go out to bid.

Board members briefly discuss what their role and responsibility is in the case of a fire, flood or other catastrophe in a home occurs. Mr. Lerner advises this should be taken very seriously and also needing to be discussed is the Town's budget for demolition, warning that the current budget is extremely under funded and this could pose a large problem in the future. Board members further discussed the Becket Board of Health and what they should do from a public standpoint.

Approval of Meeting Minutes- Mr. Lerner makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Burgwardt makes an amendment to increase the residential kitchen fee to \$50, Ms. LaBelle seconds motion. Ms. Burgwardt states that this was previously decided at the last meeting. Mr. Lerner makes a motion to approve the amended minutes as proposed by Ms. Burgwardt, Ms. Burgwardt seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

Adjournment- Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Burgwardt seconds the motion; Meeting is adjourned at 11:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heather Hunt

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Gale LaBelle

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Date

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Laurel Burwardt

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Date

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Howard Lerner

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Date