

**GREAT BARRINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL
SELECT BOARD'S MEETING ROOM
334 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT:

MICHAEL LANOUE, VICE CHAIR
PETER STANTON, MEMBER
JAYNE SMITH – HEALTH AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of September 1, 2016

MOTION: Peter Stanton to approve the September 1, 2016 Minutes.

SECOND: Michael Lanoue (Stepped down as Chair)

VOTE: 2-0 PASSED

3. SPECIAL PERMIT RECOMMENDATION TO SELECTBOARD

A. **Special Permit #859-16:** 47 Railroad LLC, P.O. Box 628, Great Barrington, MA for the construction of a mixed use development in the Village Center Overlay District at 47 Railroad Street, in accordance with Sections 3.1.4A(&) 8.4, 9.6 and 10.4 of the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaw. Sarah from SK Design was present to explain the project. The plan is to demolish the kitchen in the back and renovate the entire interior and do touch ups on the exterior. It is proposed to do an addition on the rear of the building. On the first floor there will be 5 commercial retail spaces, the second floor will contain 7 residential units, and the third floor will contain 4 residential units. The drain line will be relocated around the building. We will be installing a new sewer service connection. The infrastructure will be set up for a restaurant which will consist of just plumbing layout, etc. A proposed restaurant plan would be worked out later. After discussion, the board voted to pass on a favorable recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

MOTION: Peter Stanton to pass on a favorable recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

SECOND: Michael Lanoue (Stepped down as Chair)

VOTE: 2-0 PASSED

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Board of Health Vacancy** – Claudia Ryan sent in her resignation. It is noted in Chapter 2 – Organization and Administration of Health Boards that one member of the Board of Health should be a physician. The resignation letter needs to be filed with the Town Clerk and a notification needs to be issued to the Selectboard. The Selectboard within one month of the vacancy would need to fill the vacancy upon a combined roll call vote of the Selectboard and the Board of Health. The opening will have to be advertised.

B. **Online Permitting Start Date** - Berkshire Regional Planning is attempting to simplify the transition process. An e-mail may be sent out to the restaurants and businesses that are ready to renew on line with the option to renew by hand. The historical data has been uploaded into the online permitting program. We will continue to update the data. We may have a "soft launch" for the upcoming permitting cycle.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. None

6. **CITIZEN SPEAK TIME**

A. None

7. **HEALTH AGENT REPORT**

Items to be addressed include:

A. **Update on Tobacco Regulations** – The Tobacco Regulations went into effect September 1, 2016. Mark from Tri-Town and Locke visited the tobacco vendors and advised them on items in their store that would not comply. For some of the flavored products, we said they could sell what they had but not to order any more. Now that it has been a full month, we will start compliance checks. Someone from the Tobacco Trade Organization has been calling asking about the tobacco cessation products like Nicorette gum. The new regulations just note they can't be self-service.

B. **Backlogged Housing** – reports take an excessive amount of time, sometimes 5 to 7 hours. Jayne noted there are approximately 8 housing issues that she needs help on. Jennifer Tabakin is assisting on how to obtain help. Berkshire Public Health Alliance may be of some assistance.

C. **Staffing:** The Health Department is not staffed at adequate levels and it was a mistake to not ask for another inspector during the last budget cycle. The restaurant inspections alone could be handled by a full time person because of the volume of restaurants and temporary events. The day-to-day operations of the Health Department are also very busy, especially with the department's leadership in several public health initiatives, including opioid addiction. Work is being done to try to determine the best configuration and staffing for the Department.

8. **BOARD OF HEALTH SPEAK TIME**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the Board of Health is November 3, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary