



## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

### BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES CLAIRE TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER 917 MAIN STREET, DINING ROOM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

#### PRESENT:

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

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

##### A. Minutes of January 7, 2016

**MOTION:** Michael Lanoue to approve January 7, 2016 Minutes.

**SECOND:** Peter Stanton

**VOTE:** 3-0 (Claudia Stepped down as Chair) PASSED

#### 3. INTRODUCTION

**Berkshire Public Health Alliance, Mary Agoglia, Public Health Nurse** – Mary Agoglia explained that she does disease surveillance for Great Barrington and Berkshire County through the Berkshire Public Health Alliance. She is closely tracking the (Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis) or HGA Infection, a tick-borne disease. There were 15 cases in Great Barrington.. Jayne noted that signs will be going up in all of the parks reminding people to check for ticks. Mary also trained over 50 people in choke saver which is required in any restaurant that has 25 or more seats. To reduce the spread of Hepatitis C, there are needle exchange containers at the police department and will be one at the Senior Center. There is also needle exchange at pharmacies where drug users can get sterile needles which helps decrease the spread of disease.

#### 4. VARIANCE APPLICATION

**Application for Well construction by John Hobart, seeking an 8 inch variance to the required property line setback to a property line at his property on 1097 Main Street, Housatonic, Map 21 Lot 6.** Attorney Alex Glover was present to explain the request. She noted there was a plan submitted previously which was done by Brent White of White Engineering. A cement pad and well location was left out of the plan that is behind the house. He has revised his plan and he e-mailed the revised plan to Jayne and herself. The revised plan shows the well 20' away from the parking area. Alex noted it was originally filed in 2013 for an 8" side setback variance which was denied because there is public/private water available. He needs 4" on either side of the well. There are no wells and septic anywhere in the area.

**MOTION:** Michael Lanoue to grant the Variance for John Hobart at 1097 Main St. Housatonic.

**SECOND:** Peter Stanton

**VOTE:** 3-0 (Claudia Stepped down as Chair) PASSED

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Extension request for 11, 13, & 15 Bernard Gibbons Drive 12/10/15 Correction Order.**

Jayne advised that she and Claudia had a working meeting with the Great Barrington Housing Authority and during that meeting it was discussed what their process is and time frame to move forward and obtain the funding from the state to do the investigation that was asked for. The attorney for the Housing Authority, John Liebel, sent a letter dated January 28, 2016 requesting an extension. Claudia noted that the Housing Authority was advised that they had to hire an independent person to investigate the mold situation and not someone from the state. Attorney Liebel is also requesting that the hearing be scheduled for March 10, 2016. The extension request for March 10, 2016 is to address item #1 of the order which is to do the research and hire someone to come in. Number 1 is the report and #2 is the remediation.

**MOTION:** Michael Lanoue to grant the extension contingent upon documentation of funding mechanism and identify the professional to be employed once the funding is available by February 25, 2016.

**SECOND:** Peter Stanton

**VOTE:** 3-0 (Claudia Stepped down as Chair) PASSED

B. **Timeline for revised Great Barrington Youth Access to Tobacco Products and Environmental Tobacco Smoke Regulations – Youth Access regulation changes:**

Major changes to the existing regulations are as follows:

**YOUTH ACCESS REGULATIONS**

- **Legal Age to Purchase:** Changing the minimum legal age for sales in Great Barrington to 21.
- **Self Service Display** – Any tobacco product including a U.S. FDA – approved cessation products containing nicotine needs to have the assistance from an employee or store personnel.
- **Cigar Sales Regulated** – new section – talks about the minimum pricing of \$2.50 for a single cigar. The coupon redemption is new.
- **Pharmacy ban of tobacco product sales.** It wouldn't prohibit them from selling smoking cessation products. There was a general discussion on adding the pharmacy ban. It was decided to leave the wording in the regulation and request interested parties to attend. Jayne said she would forward literature on tobacco bans at pharmacies and the map where they are located. The businesses that sell tobacco products will be notified of the public hearing planned for May 5, 2016

**ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE REGULATIONS**

- **Entrance Buffer:** New section to restrict smoking within ten (10) feet of the main entrance to a building open to the public.
- **Violations** – amounts need to be made reasonable if we are going to fine people. It was decided to do \$100.00 for the first violation, \$200.00 for the second and \$300.00 for the third.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Recommendation letter for Community Development Block Grant for GB /Sheffield**

Great Barrington and Sheffield have done a community block grant that provides money for homeowners that quality to fix up their home, well or septic system. Jayne presented a draft letter to the Department of Housing and Community Development supporting the program. After discussion, the Board agreed to support the grant.

- B. **FDA Online Permitting Grant Application** through Berkshire Regional Planning commission. Jayne explained this is the online permitting program. Information was presented to the Board. It was noted that the permit applications would be universal and people could apply on line. After discussion, the Board signed the agreement with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

7. **CITIZEN SPEAK TIME**

None

8. **HEALTH AGENT REPORT**

Great Barrington continues to receive a lot of notifications of dog bites. Shep Evans is our new Animal Control Officer. We are working with BMC on submitting dog bite reports as they haven't been reporting dog bites. The Christian Hill property is a property that has been ongoing. Locke has been doing the food establishment inspections. We have made progress in the situation at Hong Kong Buffet. The rodent issue has remedied itself. Jayne said she received a call from someone who is interested in doing an internship. In the upcoming town meeting there may be a proposed bylaw allowing multifamily units in residential zones that are currently not allowed. Jayne said she would draft a letter of support for the warrant article.

9 **MARCH MEETING DATE**

The date was changed to March 10, 2016 to accommodate the requested hearing date for the 11,13, and 15 Bernard Gibbons Drive correction order.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann  
Secretary