



Town Of Medway Board of Health

**February 23, 2015
Medway Board of Health
26 High Street
Conference Room
Medway, MA 02053**

PRESENT: Mike Heavey, Jack Mill and Jordan Warnick

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Bacon-Health Agent

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

2015 Permits to Sign:

Farm Animals:

- Revell, Linda, 81 Oakland St. (8 goats, 10 chickens)
- Downing, Karen, 48 Hill St. (3 chickens)
- McKenzie, Pam, 30 Ellis St. (1 horse)
- Perez, Leah, 128 Summer St. (3 chickens, 2 ducks)

Food Permit:

- Sweet Peas, LLC 112 Main Street, (catering permit)
- Medway High School, 88 Summer St, (food permit)
- John McGovern Elementary School, 9 Lovering St. (food permit)
- Medway High School, 45 Holliston, St. (food permit)
- Burke Memorial Elementary School, 16 Cassidy Lane (food permit)
- Thayer Homestead 2 B Oak Street, (food permit)
- Starbucks 67 A Main St. (food permit)
- Liquor World, 67 Main St. (food & tobacco permit)
- The Muffins House Café, (food permit)
- Medway Lions Club, (food permit)

2015 Well Permit Application:

- Republic Services 1080 Airport Rd. Fall River MA Solid Waste Hauler's Permit.

- Well Permit Exelon West Medway, Assessor's Map (66), Parcel (012). The purpose of the initial drilling is investigative. The signing of the form does not constitute a serviceable well. This permit will require applicant to go before DPS /Con Com.

Repair Septic System Design:

The plan supplied was for 97 Milford St and dated January 19, 2015. The site is restricted due to the wetland. The Engineer is McIntyre Engineering and Septic Services. The application is looking for a variance from 5 ft. to 4 ft.

On a motion made by Jordan Warnick and seconded by Jack Mill, the Board of Health voted unanimously to approve the septic repair system design for 97 Milford St.

Synthetic Turf Fields:

Attendance:

Matthew Applebaum – Medway Pop Warner
 Tim Harris resident
 Richard D’Innocenzio, Board of Selectmen Member
 Jeff Lynch, Fire Chief
 Paul Maloney Resident
 Rob Pearl, Athletic Director, Medway High School
 Tracy Stewart, Resident

The following documents were presented:

- Safe Practices when plying on Synthetic Fields
- Grass Roots Synthetic Turf Field Fact Sheets

The High School Athletic Director and resident Rob Pearl was present. He explained that there has been a lot of work on the turf field project and the committee found the safest product for the students. Mr. Pearl also indicated that he read over 100 studies and found no correlations to elevated cancer risks. He further referenced an article “Recreation Management Ideas and Solutions for recreation, Sports and Facilities dated February 18, 2015, by Brad Pittam.

Member Warnick was interested in knowing who funded the reviews and if there has been peer review on any of the studies.

Rob Pearl responded that it appears that some of the studies are funded by independent groups. He further explained that the fields will be tested annually once a year.

Resident, Jeff Lynch, Summer Hill Rd. communicated that he has coached football and played on turf fields and informs all that he is not an expert, but in his opinion, the injuries on the turf are less than on the grass.

Resident Stewart responds, that the purpose of discussion is for signage on the fields.

Resident, Matthew Applebaum was at the meeting representing pop warner. He explained that colleges, and professional sports teams use turf fields, and those facilities have done testing on the turf. If there was an issue, those entities would not put their players on the turf.

A copy of the proposed sign language was shown to the residents. It was communicated that Town Counsel did review the document and has some concerns.

The Board of Health has a concern about the language “chemical contaminants in crumb rubber are known to be harmful to health.”

Resident Stewart responded that the language was from Liberty Tire, which is the Medway supplier.

Resident Harris explains that with his job, he handles MSN sheets on a regular basis, and there are concerns in every product, with a sign on everything, it causes unnecessary panic. There needs to be a balance.

Resident Mahoney communicates that he has not seen anything that reflects that these cases are related to what is in the turf. There are many unanswered questions as reported in the NBC report. Mr. Mahoney has a son who played on all the fields and has never ingested the crumb rubber and he is healthy.

Resident Stewart responds that the reports do not give the levels regarding the weight and age. On a Federal level, there is a push to get an answer if this is safe or not. The signs would provide parents with the education that there may be a risk.

Resident, Matthew Applebaum communicated that he has no problem with signs, but the grass fields also has pesticides, and fertilizer on those and there are no signs. He wonders why we would just start with the turf.

Resident Stewart responded that the grass fields do not heat up as much as turf.

All fields and players have limited exposure already. There are morning practices and late afternoon practices.

The Athletic Director is against putting up signs now, since it sends a message to the public that there is a problem with the fields. This is not the case.

The Chairman asks the members of the Board of Health for their opinions.

Member Mill communicates that he does not have enough relevant information to make a decision. He wants to hear from the EPA.

Member Warnick suggested having the Board of Health not take an action and instead have the present group come together to find a resolution.

The Chairman responded that the signage language has a lot of common sense suggestions. He is not in support of how the last line is written. He is in support of leaving this as a recommendation or suggestion, but not a requirement.

On a motion made by Jack Mill and seconded by Jordan Warnick, the Board of Health voted unanimously to table the synthetic turf issue until further information is gathered.

The Health Agent is going to try to get advisory information from the Department of Public Health.

Member Warnick will draft a letter to Senator Warren for the Board of Health to review regarding the issue of synthetic turf. He will have this ready for the next meeting.

Complete Streets:

There is a joint meeting with the various boards and commissions to discuss "Complete Streets" scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2015 at the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:00 pm.

Meeting Minutes Acceptance:

January 14, 2015:

On a motion made by Jack Mill and seconded by Jordan Warnick, the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes from January 14, 2015.

Future Meetings:

The next meeting scheduled is Monday, March 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Medway Library.

Adjourn at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland

Meeting Recorder
Approved March 23, 2015