



Town of Northborough

Board of Health

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Members Present: Glenn French
Deirdre O'Connor
Dilip Jain
Jamie Terry, Board of Health Agent

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Northborough Town offices. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Glenn French. The minutes from the September 13, 2011 meeting were approved as written with Chairman Glenn French abstaining. The minutes from the October 11, 2011 meeting were approved as written with Dilip Jain abstaining.

Karyn Johnson of the Worcester Regional Tobacco Collaborative Services was unable to attend tonight's meeting as she had a prior engagement with the Worcester Health Department. Ms. Terry informed the Board that she will be attending the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012

Ms. Terry informed the Board that a new septic system has been installed at 204 West Main Street. Ms. Terry has not signed off on this system yet due to a large pine tree on the property that is approximately 6.5' from the new leach area. This concerns Ms. Terry as roots are drawn to water. Ms. Terry would like the tree removed since it is within 10', a standard unwritten rule that she always enforces across the board to assure that roots will not infiltrate. Mr. Wayne Gurin of 204 West Main Street appeared before the Board tonight to discuss this matter. The Board discussed this matter and agreed that since there is no regulation saying that the tree has to come down Mr. Gurin could leave the tree at his own risk as long as there is a written disclosure on file with the Board of Health. This written disclosure will serve to inform any potential buyers at some unknown point in the future. Mr. Gurin was advised to closely monitor the system. Chairman Glenn French made a motion to allow Mr. Gurin to keep the tree on his property until such time it becomes financially feasible for him to remove it. Mr. Gurin thanked the Board and will forward a written letter to the BOH. Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the possibility of creating a written policy. Ms. Terry informed the Board that she will look in to specific language and the possibility of adopting a written policy.

Ms. Terry updated the Board about the towns response to the October snowstorm that left a large part of the town without power for several days.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the possibility of changing the tobacco regulations in order to encompass some of the new nicotine products that are currently being sold. Ms. Terry informed the Board that the Worcester Regional Tobacco Control Coalition (WRTCC) has also asked us to think about possibly making some restrictions (i.e., time, place, and manor) or to create a permit cap which would limit the number of tobacco permits issued by the Board of Health during a calendar year. The Board was given a copy of a model regulations from the Department of Public Health that were distributed at the WRTCC quarterly meeting listing things that are currently up for consideration. Ms. Terry would like to make some drastic changes to the current regulations. She informed the Board that she is especially interested in smoke-free housing and would like to facilitate changes by initiating conversations with local landlords.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the recent food inspections that were performed by Matt Armendo - no outstanding issues were reported.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jean