



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH

Town Hall Offices • 63 Main Street • Northborough, MA 01532 • 508-393-5009 • 508-393-3130 Fax

Glenn French

Dilip Jain

Deirdre O'Connor

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of the Northborough Town Offices. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Chairman Glenn French.

Chairman Glenn French made a motion to approve the March 3, 2015 meeting minutes as recorded, Deirdre O'Connor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. French provided Ms. Terry with his conflict of interest training certificate.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the most recent food inspections that have recently been completed. Ms. Terry informed the Board that Yowza appears to be having some machine issues and experiencing testing failures. Ms. Terry states that not all machines are up and running at this time.

Ms. Terry informed the Board that increasing the size of the Board of Health from a three member to a five member is on the agenda for the 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Town meeting will begin on Monday, April 27, 2014 at 7:30 PM and encouraged members to attend.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund. Ms. Terry informed the Board that she attended the Board of Selectmen Meeting on Monday, March 23, 2015 to discuss the partnership and have them sign the agreement. Ms. Terry informed the Board that a full-time Community Health Worker has been hired who will split work between Northborough and Hudson and begin working on April 28, 2015.

6:15 PM - Sterling Court Estates

Scott Miller of Stirrup Brook, LLC appeared before the Board tonight as a follow-up with Board regarding two of the newly proposed house lots in the Sterling Court Estates subdivision. Mr. Miller informed the Board that he is seeking a variance from Local BOH regulations; 6 Sterling Court (Lot #3) offset to property line (25' required, 11' provided), 4 Sterling Court (Lot #4) offset to property line (25' required, 11'

provided). As discussed last month, this relief will help to accommodate future homeowners with a better siting of the new homes. Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the fact that by granting this variance it will help create a buffer for the proposed detention basin for the Town's water drainage and help to keep it better protected. Ms. Terry informed the Board again that this is a unique situation to some extent, granting a variance will meet Title V regulations and there are no private well concerns as all of these lots are going to be served by town water. Chairman Glenn French made a motion to grant the requested variances, Deirdre O'Connor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

6:22 PM - 10 Mulberry Lane

Mark Farrell of Greenhill Engineering did not appear before the Board tonight regarding 10 Mulberry Lane. Ms. Terry informed the Board that the current septic system is failing and they are seeking a variance from Local BOH regulations; offset to wetlands (100' required, 50' provided), offset to groundwater (5' required, 4' provided). Ms. Terry informed the Board that the Conservation Commission had the engineer shift the system 2' due to the wetland line and has approved this new plan as is at the meeting that was held on Monday, April 13, 2015. Ms. Terry and the Board discussed how this is the most protective placement for the new system. Chairman Glenn French made a motion to allow the requested variance, Deirdre O'Connor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

6:30 Public Hearing

Chairman Glenn French opened the public hearing for altering the legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 in the Town of Northborough.

1. Chairman Glenn French read a letter from Duffy Law Office on behalf of the National Association of Tobacco Outlets (NATO) into the meeting for public comment, see attached as an addendum to these meeting minutes.
2. Chairman Glenn French read an e-mail from Cheryl Sbarra, Senior Staff Attorney and Director, Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program and Chronic Disease Prevention Program Massachusetts Association of Health Boards into the meeting for public comment, see attached as an addendum to these meeting minutes.
3. Chairman Glenn French read a letter of support from Allie Lane, Northborough Recreation Director into the meeting for public comment, see attached as an addendum to these meeting minutes.
4. Chairman Glenn French read a Memo dated March 16, 2015 from Jamie Terry, Health Agent into the meeting, see attached as an addendum to these meeting minutes.
5. Chairman Glenn French read the age restriction argument, see attached as an addendum to these meeting minutes.

Ms. Tina Grosowsky, project coordinator for the Central Massachusetts Tobacco-Free Community Partnership was in attendance at tonight's public hearing and commends

the Board for what they are doing here tonight and supports the age raise as there is science behind it to back it up. Ms. Grosowsky discussed the pharmacy ban and discussed how the tobacco industry specifically uses the retail pharmacy market to target youth. Ms. Grosowsky believes that the pharmacy ban will eliminate sales and reduce the risk to the youth. Ms. Grosowsky applauds the Board and feels as though this is a great step forward.

Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the pharmacy ban (healthcare institution) and this will only impact Walmart and BJ's as CVS has already taken it upon themselves to ban the sale of tobacco products.

7:03 PM Mr. Kieran O'Donovan, District Manager for Honey Farms appeared before the Board for tonight's public hearing. Chairman Glenn French summarized the meeting and offered open discussion.

Mr. O'Donovan questioned how many area towns have changed the minimum legal age (MLA) to purchase tobacco products. Chairman Glenn French listed all area towns that have adopted Go 21. Ms. Grosowsky informed the Board that at this time the City of Worcester and Shrewsbury are considering changes to their regulations as well.

Ms. Grosowsky stated that by changing the MLA from 18 to 21 this will cover the 19 year old high school student who is able to purchase tobacco products and then distributes them to friends, peers, etc... Ms. Grosowsky states that the thought of the industry is "the earlier you get them the longer you have them."

Mr. O'Donovan stated that in his experience informed decision making can be done at age 18. The Board stated that research proves informed decision making begins at age 25. Chairman Glenn French read the facts and outcomes as reported in the Memo from Jamie Terry dated March 16, 2015. Mr. O'Donovan had no statistics to present to the Board and stated that he had expected other people from the industry to attend tonight's public hearing. Mr. O'Donovan indicated that the store standard is to card anyone who looks to be under 27 years of age. Ms. Terry and the Board discussed the tobacco sales history for Honey Farms Stores with Mr. O'Donovan.

Ms. Grosowsky spoke of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) school-based survey that monitors six types of health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth. These measures show that tobacco use is decreasing - for example, in 2005 Needham raised the age from 18 to 21. In 2006 the rate of tobacco use was 13% and in 2010 the rate dropped to 6.7%.

At this time it is the opinion of the Board to have Ms. Terry forward the proposed changes and draft regulations up for consideration to Town Counsel for review.

Chairman Glenn French made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:26 PM, Deirdre O'Connor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The next Board of Health meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 6PM.

Ms. Terry and the Board spoke of SA Farm - no real activity on the site to report at this time.

Ms. Terry informed the Board that she recently completed a housing inspection on Maple Street with the Building Inspector. This particular unit was found unfit for human habitation under the building code and the tenant was removed by the landlord and was placed in a hotel.

Ms. Terry informed the Board that she has had numerous complaints regarding chickens on Juniper Brook Road. Ms. Terry indicated that as of today there are no regulations in town against chickens. Neighbors have raised the question about adopting regulations and have been guided to contact the Planning Board.

Ms. Terry informed the Board that the second phase of Northborough Crossing will be starting sometime this summer. The site will bring some new restaurants to the area and it is believed that they will be looking for occupancy by the end of the year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jean