



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn French-Chairman, Deirdre O'Connor, Dilip Jain
ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Bacon - Health Agent, Sarah Jean - Administrative Assistant, Patricia Kress - Resident, 3 Boy scouts were also in attendance at tonight's meeting, they were all minors who did not sign in.

The Board of Health met on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 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.

Chairman Glenn French made a motion to approve the February 23, 2016 meeting minutes as amended. Deirdre O'Connor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

6:00 PM Board Discussion on Septic Regulations

Ms. Bacon and the Board reviewed minutes from prior meetings and discussed the current septic regulations. There may be a discrepancy with regards to the requirement for new construction and further review is necessary. Ms. Bacon indicated that she will do some further research and bring it back up for discussion at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Any changes to the regulations would require a public hearing in addition to Town Counsel review prior to adoption. The Board asked Ms. Bacon to look at all aspects of the local septic regulations to see if any additional changes were needed at this time.

6:15 PM Pet Friendly Restaurant Discussion

Ms. Bacon and the Board discussed C'est La Vie Bistro's Proposal for a safe, pet friendly environment. Millie Milton, owner of C'est La Vie Bistro was not in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Patricia Kress identified herself as a member of the school committee and gave some background information on the public schools policy; addressing service animal -vs- therapy dog. The policy for the school indicates that "animals may be brought into schools for instructional purposes only. Instructional purposes means that the presence of animals directly supports the learning strategies or achievement of the objectives of an approved educational program. Ms. Kress went on to say that the exception to the policy is a service animal." Animals (Dogs especially) that are brought on school grounds need written approval from the Principal who will ensure that they will not be near or in contact with anyone who is allergic to the presence of

the animal being there, animals will present no physical danger to students or employees, and proof that the animals are free from disease or parasite is required - i.e., rabies certificate / certification from a veterinarian.

The members of the Board report that they have done their own research and at this time they are unable to find any indoor pet-friendly restaurants anywhere in Massachusetts, only outdoor pet-friendly areas only.

At this time the Board agreed that they are willing to consider a variance request for the outdoor portion of this establishment (patio area) only. Ms. Bacon informed the Board that she will contact the owner regarding the next regularly scheduled meeting.

6:25 PM Worcester Regional Tobacco Control Collaborative (WRTCC) Update

Ms. Bacon reports that a round of compliance checks have been completed and there was only one (1) violation. Ms. Bacon reports that Honey Farms #16 located at 5 West Main Street sold Garcia y Vega Grape Natural Leaf Cigars to a minor on Wednesday, February 17, 2016. A letter of non-compliance was mailed out on March 4, 2016 noting the violation and fine of \$100.00. The Board requested that Ms. Bacon send out compliance letters to all other license holders in the town.

6:30 PM Upcoming Trainings & Certifications

Ms. Bacon informed the Board that there is an upcoming choke saver class being held at the Fire Department on Saturday, March 12, 2016, from 9AM-11AM. Choke save certificate is required for all establishments with 25 seats or more. The cost of the class is \$35.00 per person and to date there are five (5) people registered from local businesses.

Michael Sarasin will be holding a ServSafe Certification class on Thursday, April 21, 2016, from 9AM-1PM at Town Offices. This class is \$130.00 per person.

7 PM Substance Abuse Update

Ms. Bacon and the Board discussed the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. Ms. Bacon reports that the SAPC met on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 and reviewed the results of the surveys. Ms. Bacon reported that the focal point they will focus on at this time is binge drinking. Binge drinking was defined as drinking five (5) or more alcoholic beverages with the primary intention of becoming intoxicated over the course of three (3) hours. The SAPC will continue to meet to identify problems and discuss intervening variables and members are working closely with Tracy Desovich, Technical Assistance Specialist with the Education Development Center (EDC) located in Waltham.

Board members discussed the survey with the three (3) boy scouts (identified as Algonquin Regional High School freshman) who were in attendance at the meeting. Discussion regarding alcohol and drug use/activity at the high school followed. The Board questioned if a member of the Boy Scouts would consider an opportunity to serve as a student member-at-large.

The next Board of Health meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Jean