



BOARD OF HEALTH

TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

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BOARD OF HEALTH MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday
February 16, 2016
Westborough Town Hall, 34 West Main Street,
Lower Level Conference Room
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Meeting (January 19, 2016)
 2. Director's Report (January)
 3. Sanitarian's Report (January)
 4. Health Inspectors' Reports (January)
 5. New Business
 - A. Hissho Sushi - Variance Request - 6:00 pm
 - B. Transfer Station Sticker Fees - Discussion - 6:15 pm
 6. Director's Issues
- Adjournment



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Minutes of Board of Health Meeting February 16, 2016

The regular Board of Health meeting was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, in the Town Hall, lower level conference room. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chairman Walsh. Present: Members Hashmi, Ehrlich, Director Baccari, Sanitarian Gauthier, and Inspector Gilchrist.

Minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 2016, were approved.

Director's report was discussed and approved. Complaints received from residents in the Kay Street/West Main Street area about wood smoke/odor coming from a neighbor's wood stove were discussed.

Sanitarian's report was discussed and approved.

Health Inspector's reports including the part-time Health Inspector were discussed and approved. Owners of Paradise Biryani Pointe will attend next month's meeting to discuss violations found during recent inspections.

New Business

At 6:00 p.m., the Board prepared to meet with representatives of Hissso Sushi; Toinette Waldon, Director of Food Safety and Harold Tan, Regional Manager. Hissso Sushi, headquartered in North Carolina, is seeking a variance for the preparation of sushi. They operate a take-out service at Roche Bros. A HACCP plan, along with certifications, has been submitted and approved. The sushi chef is required to be ServSafe certified. Inspector Gilchrist recommended the variance be granted.

A motion was made by Member Ehrlich to grant the variance to Hissso Sushi for their sushi operation at Roche Bros. The motion was seconded by Chairman Walsh; the vote unanimous.

Director's Issues

The Board of Health's segment for the Annual Town Report has been submitted. The ATR will be distributed at the Annual Town Meeting.

Food service establishments that have earned *Certificates of Merit* are now posted on the BOH website. Member Hashmi would like to see that recognition displayed on the digital billboard located on route 9 westbound in Westborough. The billboard is owned and operated by Clear Channel Cable. The cable company offers free advertising to the Town as part of their economic development to promote business. Director Baccari will meet with the EDC Coordinator to work on the layout for the digital board and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Dump sticker fees for 2016-2018 were discussed. **A motion was made by Member Ehrlich to increase the fee for a two-year dump sticker for 2016-2018 to \$150; seniors (65 and over) will be half price. Member Hashmi seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.** New stickers are required by July 1, 2016.

Some towns have adopted regulations that require restaurants to have an employee who is servsafe certified on duty at all times while the restaurant is open for business. Director Baccari asked the Board to consider a similar regulation for Westborough. Sanitarian Gauthier said the many of the bigger restaurant chains already have that regulation in place. He believes this will help the restaurant owners, not hurt them. Inspector Gilchrist said there is already a regulation requiring at least one full-time employee to be servsafe certified, however, there have been occasions when the certified employee is not on site for during an inspection and none of the employees can answer any of the questions.

Member Ehrlich would like to know how many places already have more than one certified employee. The focus should be on places that are having problems. He could understand enforcing the regulation with establishments on probation, but was unsure enforcing it town-wide.

Member Hashmi said he's in favor of the requirement.

Member Ehrlich said he would like to see the regulation that's being proposed before a decision is made. Director Baccari will have draft regs for the next meeting.

The warrant for the up-coming Annual Town Meeting was discussed. Article 18 addresses changes to the Town's Charter recommended by the Charter Review Committee. Section I of Article 18 specifically addresses the appointing authority of the Health Director. Historically, the Health Director has been appointed by members of the Board of Health. The Charter Review Committee recommendation would have the Health Director appointed by the Town Manager.

Member Ehrlich said there is specialized knowledge associated with the Board of Health. The department is not hiring an administrative manager. Chairman Walsh agreed and noted that the BOH is a very specialized group. Member Ehrlich commented that the BOH is an independent authority and the agents of the BOH act under the authority of the members of the Board of Health.

Member Ehrlich motioned it is the consensus of the Board of Health to strongly oppose Article 20, Sub-Section I, regarding the appointment of the Health Director and believe the Health Director should be appointed by members the Board of Health. Member Hashmi seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

(Member Ehrlich left the meeting at 6:45 pm.)

Member Hashmi said he was able to contact the author of the article published in the *New York Times Magazine* concerning the chemical PFOA that was discussed at last month's meeting and was told the water can be tested for that substance. He would like to have the Town's water supply tested for this chemical.

Chairman Walsh said there are no standardized tests or values. He would like to wait for EPA for guidance.

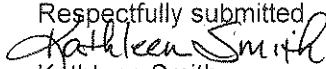
Member Hashmi asked if the issue should be raised with the MA DEP; he has reached out to the Town Engineer but has not heard back from him.

Chairman Walsh said the Town's water is pretty clean; he has no concerns about the water quality. There is no chemical factory or industry located upstream from Westborough or any neighboring town.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen Smith