

Ashland Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
February 21, 2017 – 7 PM  
Ashland Town Hall, 101 Main Street, Ashland MA 01721

Call to Order: Chair Jon Fetherston called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Members Present: Jon Fetherston  
Kathryn Mahoney  
Judith Margulies  
Mary Mortensen  
Koduvayur Narayana

Members Absent: none

Staff Participation: Mark Oram, Ashland Health Department Director  
Laura Clifford, Ashland Health Department Administrative Secretary  
Michael Herbert, Town Manager  
Pat Whitney, Facilities Manager

Public Participation: Karen Araya Paul Colonna  
Mark Dassoni Stephen Morgan  
Dilip Choudhury Anne Manning  
Smriti Choudhury Richard Powell  
Elaine Kelley

Chairperson's Announcements: The meeting was being audio recorded by Mark Oram and audio/video recorded by WACA-TV, Ashland MA.

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Agenda Item: **Citizen's Participation**

Discussion:

- Resident Elaine Kelley informed the Board members of concerns regarding bus parking next to the Columbus Ave neighborhood. Board members asked questions and considered aspects of her concerns.
- Resident Karen Araya shared with Board members concerns of the Columbus Ave neighborhood on the topics of bus parking and a gas smell. Board members asked questions and considered aspects of her concerns.
- Resident Anne Manning commented on noise and related planning opportunities.

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- Town Manager Herbert offered ideas and suggestions to those who came before the Board for citizen's participation.
- Mark Dassoni welcomed Kitty Mahoney as a new member to the Board.
- Judy Margulies spoke to concerns at the Village of Americas.

Agenda Item: **Fenwal, Noise Complaint**

Discussion: As a neighbor, Paul Colonna discussed with the Board on-going concerns with Kidde-Fenwal Inc.

Future Action: Members suggested sending a letter to Kidde-Fenwal

Agenda Item: **Pat Whitney, Request for a waiver for grease interceptors at Public Schools**

Discussion: Director of Facilities Pat Whitney discussed with the Board members her request for a waiver for the Ashland schools for a grease interceptor. Ms. Whitney suggested that her team would perform a monthly check rather than a monthly cleaning, and to go to a bi-annual cleaning schedule.

Future Action: The request would come back to the Board of Health in six months for further review.

Motion: Mrs. Mortensen made a motion to approve the waiver with the stipulation that it would have proactive reconsideration in 6 months. Ms. Mahoney seconded the motion. The motion was approved (5-0-0) with members Fetherston, Mahoney, Margulies, Mortensen and Narayana in favor.

Agenda Item: **22 Deer Ridge, Review of past addition and on bedroom deed restriction**

Discussion: Residents Dilip Choudhury and Smriti Choudhury discussed with the Board public health related concerns of sanitation with a proposed home addition at 22 Deer Ridge.

Anticipated Action:

- Homeowner will contract to have a Title V inspection performed.
- Mark Oram will continue to follow up with the homeowner and report activity to the BOH members.

Agenda Item: **American Legion, 40 Summer Street, Request for waiver from grease trap cleaning frequency**

Discussion: Representing the American Legion, Richard Powell requested a variance for cleaning of a grease trap with cleaning to be done every 8 to 12 months.

Future Action: The request would come back to the Board of Health in six months for further review.

Motion: Mr. Narayana made a motion to grant a waiver from the required grease trap cleaning frequency conditional to the follow up six-month review by the Board of Health as recommended by Mark Oram. Mrs. Mortensen seconded the motion. The motion was

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approved (5-0-0) with members Fetherston, Mahoney, Margulies, Mortensen and Narayana voting in favor.

**Agenda Item: Strategic Input and Vision Statement**

Discussion: Mark Oram offered a brief comment to the Board.

**Agenda Item: Preliminary Plan off MBTA access road to RTD district**

Discussion: Mark Oram and the Board members had a brief discussion of the plan that had been received by the Health Department staff in November 2016.

Future Action: none

**Agenda Item: 60 Pleasant Street, EPA review letter dated January 26, 2017**

Discussion: Mark Oram and Board members had a brief discussion concerning 60 Pleasant Street and concerns with its location in the EPA designated plume area.

Future Action: Information will be forth coming to the members of the Board of Health

**Agenda Item: Letter of Support for proposed Metrowest Health Foundation Grant to address opioid epidemic**

Discussion: Mr. Oram commented briefly on a Metrowest Health Foundation grant opportunity for the promotion and availability of Narcan, and requested the Board of Health's participation in this grant.

Future Action:

- Investigate how members of the Board of Health can receive information and can be able to participate in the MOAPC grant (Metrowest Opioid Abuse Prevention Coalition).
- Investigate how members of the Board of Health can be included on the Metrowest Health Foundation email list.

Motion: Mrs. Mortensen made a motion to allow Mark Oram to represent the Board of Health by allowing him to enter into a letter of agreement for the current Metrowest Health Foundation grant concerning Narcan. Ms. Mahoney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0) with members Fetherston, Mahoney, Margulies, Mortensen and Narayana voting in favor.

Motion: Mrs. Mortensen made a motion to extend the meeting until 10 PM. Mr. Oram offered his opinion that the Board Policies and Procedures would not allow this and it would have to be decided at the prior meeting. No second was made. There was no action taken.

**Agenda Item: Recreational Marijuana review of conference information from session on February 14, 2017, MAPC**

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Discussion: Members discussed attendance at a recent Metrowest Area Planning Council (MAPC) meeting that was held on February 14, 2017 concerning the recently passed cannabis legislation.

Motion: Mary Mortensen made a motion to suspend the Board Operating Policy and Procedures. Mr. Narayana seconded the motion. The motion was approved (5-0-0) with members Fetherston, Mahoney, Margulies, Mortensen and Narayana voting in favor.

Motion: Mr. Narayana made a motion to extend the meeting for 30 minutes. Mrs. Mortensen seconded the motion. The motion was approved (5-0-0) with members Fetherston, Mahoney, Margulies, Mortensen and Narayana voting in favor.

**Agenda Item: Recreational Marijuana Opt Out discussion and process**

Discussion: Board members discussed the implementation of the November 2016 cannabis legislation.

Future Action: Board members will consider several ideas in support of further conversation and action.

Motion: Mrs. Mortensen made a motion that the Board direct the Chair to draft a letter, distribute it to the Board of Health members outside of a meeting for their comments of additions and subtractions, and he will then rewrite the letter with the Board members' suggestions and forward it to the legislature prior to the next public meeting of the Board. Ms. Mahoney seconded the motion. The motion was approved (3-1-1) with members Fetherston, Mahoney and Mortensen voting in favor, member Margulies opposed, and member Narayana abstained.

**Agenda Item: FY17 and FY18 Budget, Revolving Fund update**

Discussion: Mark Oram made brief comments concerning the budget. A few Board members added comments.

**Agenda Item: Howe Street Solar Project / Gas Permeation Trench**

Discussion: Mark Oram informed the Board on further Howe Street landfill considerations.

**Agenda Item: CASPER Program (Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response) Strike Team; Collaborative efforts with Framingham and Holliston**

Discussion: A few comments were made.

Action Item: Board member Kitty Mahoney agreed to present an overview at the next Board meeting.

**Agenda Item: Town Manager's request for review process for recreational marijuana – Town and State requirements**

Discussion: none

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**Agenda Item: Intern, Summer 2017**

Discussion: Mark Oram made a brief statement concerning the possibility of a summer intern in the Ashland Health Department.

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**Agenda Item: Development updates from previous Development Department reviews: Dr. Green's Indoor Golf, 200 Homer Ave, opened December 23, 2016; Fusions, Pond Street, opened February 14, 2017; Donut Box, 119 Pond Street, opened February 15, 2017**

Discussion: Mark Oram provided information to the Board members on several topics including Erica's restaurants, the Howe Street landfill, and the Medical Reserve Corp. Board members offered various comments.

Action Item: Chair Fetherston on behalf of the Board of Health offered sending a letter to the Planning Board to remind them that the BOH has jurisdiction of the landfill below the top 12 inches.

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**Agenda Item: Acceptance of Meeting Minutes, December 6 -2017, December 9 -2017, February 1 -2017**

Discussion: none

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**Agenda Item: Next Meeting(s) March and April 2017**

Discussion: Board members discussed future meetings.

Motion: At 9:45 PM a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Mortensen. Kathryn Mahoney seconded the motion.

**Items Used during the Meeting:**

1. Meeting agenda as posted
2. Letter from Paul Colonna regarding noise at Kidde-Fenwal Inc
3. Letter from Facilities Director Pat Whitney regarding a grease trap waiver for the schools
4. Correspondence from Smriti Choudhury regarding 22 Deer Ridge Road
5. Letter from Richard Powell representing the American Legion for a grease trap waiver
6. Strategic Planning Input and Vision Statement
7. Page 1, Preliminary Plan, MBTA Access Road
8. Information page for the Metrowest Health Foundation Narcan Grant
9. Opt out information concerning the November 2016 cannabis legislation
10. FY 17 budget information sheet

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Town of Ashland audio and audio/video recordings incorporated as part of the meeting minutes. See Ashland Records Officer for copies.

With a vote of 3-0-1 \_these minutes were accepted at the *June 20, 2017* meeting of the Board of Health, members *Fetherston, Margulies and Narayana (Etskovitz abstaining)* in the affirmative.



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Judith Margulies, Chair

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Ronald Etskovitz, Vice-Chair

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Koduvayur Narayana, Clerk

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Jon Fetherston, Member

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Mary Mortensen, Member

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