



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held December 11, 2012.

MEETING MINUTES - November 13, 2012

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Paul McKeon, Chairman. Other members present were Ms. Ann Marie Thompson, Mr. Steve Garabedian, and Mr. Scott Chase. Mr. Chris Cella was absent. Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator, was also present.

Minutes: Motion made by Ms. Thompson to accept the minutes of **October 9, 2012**. Motion seconded by Mr. Chase; the vote was 4-0 in favor.

Board of Health Code of Bylaws – Ban on Sale of Drug Paraphernalia: Present for this discussion was Police Chief Walter Warchol and Detective Ouillette. Chief Warchol had requested that the Board consider adoption of a ban on the sale of drug paraphernalia, synthetic marijuana, and bath salts. A draft by-law prepared by Chief Warchol and Ms. Gniadek was reviewed by the Board. Detective Ouillette gave the Board an overview of these various synthetic products, commonly referred to names, and possible effects.

Mr. McKeon stated that the Board of Health can adopt regulations to protect the public health and safety and felt strongly that Northbridge should take the lead in banning the sale of these items.

The Board will hold a Public Hearing on December 11, 2012 prior to adoption.

Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Farm Animals – 1200 Mendon Road: Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that the property owner, Kevin Hollenbeck, was unable to attend tonight's meeting and asked that he be placed on the Board's next agenda.

Ms. Gniadek apprised the Board of the issues surrounding this property and asked that the Board attempt to conduct a site inspection prior to the next meeting so that they would have a better understanding of the issues involved.

The Board agreed to schedule a site inspection on Saturday, December 1, 2012 at 9:00 AM. This information will be provided to the owners in a letter informing them of the date and time of their next meeting.

Wal-Mart Organics Recycling Program: The Board reviewed email correspondence from Quest Recycling regarding this organics recycling program. Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that EPS of VT has been in touch with the office on how to proceed to obtain a trash hauler permit. Since this information has not yet been received, this matter was tabled to the next meeting.

Emergency Guidance Notice for Food Establishments: The Board reviewed a draft Memorandum prepared by Ms. Gniadek for distribution to all food establishments outlining their responsibilities in the event of a power outage per guidance developed by the Massachusetts Food Protection Program. The Memorandum included a newly established policy which includes non-compliance fees for failure to abide by the Guidance Document.

Motion made by Ms. Thompson to issue memorandum and adopt policy. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was all in favor.

This Memorandum will be sent to food establishments with their 2013 permit renewals.

Well/Septic Complaint – 275 Purgatory Road: Mr. McKeon informed the Board that he had received a complaint via email from Howard Fease regarding property at 275 Purgatory Road.

Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that Mr. Fease had come into the Board of Health office to express concerns over the well at 275 Purgatory Road, specifically the note on the septic design plan indicating that the shallow well which at that time serviced two properties, was to be disconnected.

The Board, after reviewing the matter, asked that Ms. Gniadek prepare a letter to the owners of 275 Purgatory Road asking them if they have in their records any documentation as to whether or not that well line to the property across the way had been discontinued.

Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that Mr. Fease was also concerned with whether or not the septic tank is being pumped. She stated that the Board has now means of enforcing that notation which is on all septic design plans. The Board agreed that we could not enforce that – the property owners are responsible for maintaining their sewage disposal systems.

Annual Permit Renewals: The Board reviewed a permit renewal listing noting establishments that are not up to date on payment of water, sewer, property tax, and/or personal property taxes to the Town of Northbridge. These permits will be held until all fees are paid.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was distributed to the Board:

➤ *None*

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM was made by Mr. Garabedian and seconded by Ms. Thompson – all in favor.

Attested by,

Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator

List of Documents utilized by Board of Health
Meeting Date: November 13, 2012

- 1) DRAFT Minutes of October 9, 2012 Meeting
- 2) Code of Bylaws – Ban on Sale of Drug Paraphernalia
 - a) DRAFT Bylaw
 - b) Drug Fact Sheet – Bath Salts or Designer Cathinones
 - c) Drug Fact Sheet – Cannabis
 - d) Drug Fact Sheet – K2 or Spice
 - e) Definition of Synthetic cannabis (Wikipedia)
 - f) News Item – Get Smart About Drugs – Synthetic Drugs put Oregon Teenagers in Hospital with Kidney Failure (October 5, 2012)
 - g) News Item – Get Smart About Drugs – Bath Salts create “Chaos” for First Responders (July 25, 2012)
 - h) News Item – Get Smart About Drugs – Cartoon Packaging May Hold Synthetic High and Real Danger (September 14, 2012)
 - i) News Item – Get Smart About Drugs – Feds in NY Brace for Synthetic Drug Known as “Smiles”
 - j) Packet of Information from Northbridge Police Department (9 pages)
- 3) 1200 Mendon Road – Keeping of Farm Animals – Certified Letter dated October 31, 2012
- 4) Wal-Mart Organics Recycling
 - a) Email from Quest Recycling dated November 8, 2012
 - b) Email from J. Gniadek to Quest Recycling dated November 7, 2012
 - c) Board of Health Letter to Wal-Mart dated August 8, 2012
- 5) Emergency Guidance Directive – Food Establishments
 - a) Memorandum to Food Establishments – Emergency Guidance Directive & Policy
 - b) Interruption of Electrical Service portion of “Guidance for Emergency Action Planning for Retail Food Establishments” from the Massachusetts Food Protection Program
- 6) 275 Purgatory Road
 - a) Email dated November 6, 2013 – forwarded to J. Gniadek from Paul McKeon – Original Email from AndHow! Antique Telephones (Howie Fease) w/ attachments
 - b) Email dated November 13, 2012 from AndHow! Antique Telephones to J. Gniadek
- 7) Annual Permit Renewals – spreadsheet noting establishments with outstanding fees owed (Water, Sewer, Property, and/or Personal Property)
- 8) Correspondence - *None*