

TONY JUDGE, Chair
CHRISTINE MCKIERNAN, MD, Vice-Chair
KAREN WALSH PIO, LICSW, LADC 1, Clerk
JESSICA COLLINS
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON D. HART, Public Health Director

Board of Health Minutes

September 13, 2022

As Approved – October 18, 2022

Present: Tony Judge, Chair; Dr. Christine McKiernan, Vice Chair, Karen Walsh Pio, Clerk; Jessica Collins, Board of Health Member; Stephen Frantz, Board of Health Member; Sharon Hart, Public Health Director; Jennifer Jernigan, Assistant Public Health Director; Monasia Ceasar, Health Compliance Specialist; Robert Pleasure, Community Member, Kathy Davis; Community Member

All present parties introduced themselves.

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Judge.

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the July 12, 2022, Meeting:

Chair Judge introduced the minutes from the 07/12/22 meeting and questioned if there were any comments or changes to be made. No revisions were brought forth for consideration. Dr. McKiernan made a motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. A rollcall was taken, and all were in favor.

2. Announcements and Open Forum:

Chair Judge prompted that any notions wished to be considered by the Board be raised. A community member questioned if there was an update on the lead testing done previously on Town Buildings. Director Hart updated that the results are in and can be made available by appointment with Departmental staff. Frantz questioned if there was an update regarding his inquiry about the landfill and updated the Board that unfortunately the H.926 bill regarding the use of harmful pesticides on school properties has been tabled by state legislatures. Hart confirmed that a response was made to his original inquiry via email on August 1st. Walsh Pio extended congratulatory remarks to the Senior Center for hosting an amazing event celebrating the Woodlawn Park.

3. Director's Update:

(A) Master Plan

Director Hart shared that Chair Judge and herself met with MPIC representatives, Nate Therrien and Michelle Theroux regarding the Board of Health's role in the Master Plan. As a result, they have requested to come before the Board at the next meeting for follow up. Chair Judge expressed the

As Approved – Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

importance of the Master Plan as it outlines and establishes the goals, objectives, and direction of the Board of Health. Judge suggested a subcommittee be formed to analyze the Master Plan and set expectations for the Board. Collins agreed to work in conjunction with Director Hart to execute the request. With the understanding that the Master Plan will be redistributed to Board members to refamiliarize themselves with the objectives originally assigned to the Board, the Board agreed to have MPIC join the next meeting.

4. New Business:

(A) Nearmap

Frantz questioned the status of his inquiry regarding the utilization of the software Nearmap to investigate the deforestation of Dry Brook Hill. Director Hart confirmed she had received correspondence from Town Administration that the use of the software is not for Boards and Committees. Hart shared that the contents of the letter drafted by Frantz would have to be approved by the Board members prior to sending it to Town Administration. Hart read the letter to be considered by the Board. Concerns were raised regarding the legality of infringing upon privacy and having a specific project or oversight that would require the analysis. The Board members were in consensus that the letter was requesting clearance for Town staff (Director Hart) to investigate the activity on the aquifer using Nearmap technology. The Chair agreed to accept a motion to approve the letter being sent to Town Administration. Collins made the motion and Frantz seconded it. A roll call was taken, all were in favor.

(B) Glyphosate and Glufosinate

Chair Judge introduced the topic of Glyphosate and Glufosinate as the next topic of discussion. Frantz provided an overview of the topic highlighting the hazards, dangers, and limitations associated with the chemical use and attempted regulatory efforts. He emphasized the need to raise awareness within the community as well as to increase policy to inhibit the use of such chemicals. Hart suggested that the initiatives be made on a Town level for the most impact. Collins proposed reaching out to the Parks Division of Public Works with a proposal to utilize eco-friendly products on Town landscape, providing models used in other Towns including alternative products listed. Hart raised the possibility of editing the Town's current regulation banning the use of Glyphosate on Town owned and operated property to include Glufosinate. Frantz agreed to work with Hart on drafting the revisions to be reviewed by the board. Chair Judge encouraged the Board to brainstorm ideas on how this matter can be shared with the community.

As Approved – Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

(C) Emergency Planning and Public Health

Chair Judge introduced the presentation regarding emergency planning and public health as the next topic for consideration. Pleasure expressed the importance of emergency planning and the role that the Health Department can play to ensure that the public is properly informed with the necessary information regarding emergency protocols. Pleasure shared that both FSI and E Ink are Tier 2 organizations in the Town of South Hadley that store a considerable amount of hazardous material onsite. Although properly permitted, these materials come with the increased risk of fire, explosion, contamination, etc. that can be an immediate threat to neighboring residential areas. Pleasure raised the importance of ensuring that those within close proximities to these businesses be adequately equipped with relative emergency management information. Pleasure referenced several statutes including the Town's Noisome Trade regulation to strengthen his claim that the Health Department should have a role in overseeing emergency management as it relates to public health.

Director Hart shared that as the Emergency Management Director, she oversees the submission of emergency plans on an annual basis. Hart shared that the plans are kept at the Police station. Typically, the Health Department does not participate in emergency planning besides the role of issuing site assignments for hazardous wastes. Currently, the Town does not have any hazardous wastes sites. Hart agreed to review the references submitted by Pleasure and provide insight to the Board.

(D) Update: South Hadley Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition

Chair Judge introduced the update regarding the Drug and Alcohol Prevention as the next agenda item. Walsh Pio provided a brief update on the Coalition including the upcoming events and initiatives planned as the meetings resume following a break for the summer months. She also noted that the SPIFFY Coalition is hosting a data fair on September 28th at the Red Barn in Amherst from 2pm- 5pm presenting the data about youth health in Hampshire County.

(E) Emergency Order to Vacate

67 Pond Rd- Garage Conversion Unit- Ratify

Jernigan shared that the garage conversion unit located at 67 Pond Rd was condemned after receiving confirmation from the Building Department that the unit was not permitted properly. Judge shared he would accept a motion to ratify the order. Collins made a motion and Dr. McKiernan seconded it. A roll call was taken, all were in favor.

As Approved – Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

5 Bach Lane- Ratify

Director Hart shared that an incident occurred at the address and Town Inspectional Departments including Building, Electrical, and Health were invited to inspect the property after the electricity was disconnected. It was determined that the wiring of the property posed a threat and needed to be serviced by a licensed professional prior to restating the power. As a result, a condemnation order was issued. Judge shared he would accept a motion to ratify the order. Walsh Pio made a motion and Dr. McKiernan seconded it. A rollcall was taken, all were in favor.

Discussion on mold at the High School pursued:

Dr. McKiernan questioned if there were any updates on the status of the mold issue at the High School. Chair Judge shared that the local newspaper mentioned that the issue had been resolved. Director Hart agreed to follow up with Town Administration regarding this matter for a detailed update.

Discussion on Vaccine Clinic pursued:

Dr. McKiernan proposed hosting a vaccine clinic, as COVID vaccine guidance has recently been updated. Director Hart shared that the Department is currently in a transition phase with its nursing staff and will be working to get the newly appointed nurse trained. A proposed date of October 4th between 2pm-6pm is being considered for this year's vaccine clinic at Beer & Story. Both, COVID and flu vaccines will be offered to eligible parties at the drive- thru clinic.

Discussion of Peabody Peaker Power Plant pursued:

Frantz raised the possibility of considering the matter at the Peaker Plant, as environmental justice groups are being negatively impacted. Collins informed Frantz that the Board had discussed the Peaker Plant to great lengths and agreed to not act on the situation.

4. Set Next Meeting Date- (TBD) @ 6:00 p.m. at South Hadley Senior Center:

The Board members agreed to continuing hosting the Board meetings in person at the Senior Center. The next meeting was set for October 11th at 6 p.m. at the Senior Center.

As Approved – Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

5. Adjourn the meeting:

Chair Judge mentioned he would accept a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. McKiernan made the motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. All members were in consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully,

Monasia Ceasar

As Approved – Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022

ATTACHMENT A

RECORD LOCATION

August Director's Report	BOH File
Robert Pleasure Memorandum	BOH File
M.G.L Ch.111Sec. 142 D-G	BOH File
M.G.L Ch. 111 Sec. 122, 31C	BOH File
M.G.L Ch. 111 Sec. 142A-C, 142H-M	BOH File
Glufosinate Brief	BOH File