



# TOWN OF AQUINNAH

## BOARD OF HEALTH

955 State Road, Aquinnah, Massachusetts 02535  
(508) 645-2309 - Fax (508) 645-7884 - E-Mail: [healthagent@aquinnah-ma.gov](mailto:healthagent@aquinnah-ma.gov)

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## Minutes

Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018  
Aquinnah Town Hall, 6pm

Present: James Glavin, Sarah Saltonstall and Juli Vanderhoop

Also Present: Chris Alley, Mike Tomkins, Hugh Taylor and Phoenix Becker.

Meeting came to order at 6:03pm

### **New Business Items for BOH Review and Discussion**

Taylor, Pilot Way (Map 6 Lot 47.1) permitting of two wells. Chris Alley began by asking the Board not to require a Public Hearing for the wells because the two septic that necessitated the Public Hearing were found to have never been installed, and it was more than three years since their approval. Hugh Taylor confirmed that one of the septs for his barn had never been installed. Chis said that he would provide new plans without those septs on them. The wells could then be approved without the need for variances.

Fructman, 42 Hebron's Way (Map 12 Lot 144) request for removal of deed restriction. Chris Alley said that the owners had decided that they no longer wanted to build a garage with detached bedroom which the Board of Health had voted on at their 6/14/18 meeting. Instead they would like to add a bedroom onto the house, the addition would be accessed through one of the existing bedrooms. Chris argued that the existing bedroom would not be considered a bedroom anymore because it would not provide privacy. Jim asked what are the dimensions of the new bedroom? Chris said 11' x 14'. Chris asked that the Board of Health remove the deed restriction. Sarah moved to accept the plans as presented and remove the deed restriction. Juli 2<sup>nd</sup>. All ayes.

Taylor/Macphail, 41 Lighthouse Road (Map 6 Lot 45.1) septic tie-in of detached bedroom. Mike Tomkins argued that the homeowners should be allowed to add a detached bedroom as part of a garage, tied in to an existing three bedroom septic system. The existing house has three bedrooms. Mike said they are removing a bedroom from the house. Phoenix said Shawn Macphail said he planned to remove a door from one of the bedrooms. Jim said you know you are making our life difficult. Mike 'they could make it into a 6' door'. Jim 'it is easy to put doors back on, a 6' door is more believable'. Mike said they would install a tank and a pump to pump back up hill to the septic system. Sarah asked if pumps need maintenance contracts? Jim 'no'. Sarah asked if the garage is built yet? Mike 'it is a proposed garage'. Hugh said it would be where the basketball court is now. Jim 'my only issue is with a door leaning up against the wall'. Sarah said what about a septic inspection to see if the system can handle the load? Mike



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said the system is working properly. Sarah asked when the system was built. Phoenix said it was approved in 2005. Jim looked at the floor plan of the house and commented that it did not look like you could fit a 6' door in there. Juli said we could ask them to do a 6' door and see if they can do it. Mike asked if a 6' door was not possible would the Board of Health let them do a deed restriction instead? Jim 'yes, we have to ask them to do something'. Sarah said make it conditional that they do either a 6' door or do a deed restriction that the third bedroom in the house would never be used as a bedroom. Jim and Juli 'yes, let's do that'. Juli motioned for 6' door opening or deed restriction. Sarah 2<sup>nd</sup>. All ayes. Jim asked Phoenix to do a site visit to verify the 6' door opening if that were the route the owners chose.

Taylor, Lighthouse Road (Map 6 Lot 43) Barn Lot. Hugh Taylor came to the Board of Health to have an informal discussion about his plans for his two lots. Hugh said that the Barn lot currently belongs to his brother James, but the ownership is in flux and the lot is developable. Hugh said Jeanie and I would like to build a little house in front of the barn; I would use the existing septic plan that Kent Healy did or a plan the Reid Silva did later. Sarah asked what would the buildings dimensions be? Hugh said I don't have plans yet, but about 34 x 34, single story. Hugh asked what would be needed to update the plans? Sarah said it is a 1999 Title 5 plan. Chris it is for a 6 bedroom system. Hugh it would be a 2 bedroom house. Sarah I don't have any problem with any of this. Hugh asked Chris if Kate's well could move 10'? Chris said no it is wedge in. Chris suggested that Hugh could flip his reserve area to avoid needing a variance.

Taylor, 18 Lighthouse Road (Map 6 Lot 32) discussion of upgrade of cesspool to Title 5 leach field. Hugh then discussed with the Board the septic system at the Outermost Inn. Hugh said that the Inn is served by a pump chamber and large leaching pit. Hugh 'I try to get the grease trap pumped and the septic pumped every year. It has never failed but I might want to upgrade to a leaching field'. Sarah asked why? Hugh said because the restaurant is limited to 42 seats because of the septic capacity. Hugh 'in the summer I often have 50 people seated and 50 people waiting for seating. As we plan to pass the restaurant on to our daughter Alex we might be asked by the Planning Board or Zoning Board to increase our capacity in the septic, to not be limited to 42 seats'. Jim 'if it were me I would leave the pit and add infiltrators around the pit, because it is a big pit and working so well'. Hugh 'if my pit failed would I be permitted to put in a new pit in the reserve?' Jim 'you can, but the new Title 5 does not allow you to count the pit for as many square feet of infiltration as it allowed in the past'. Jim said you only have 1,000 gallon tank and the minimum is now 1,500 gallons so you may be asked to replace it. Jim 'you are only asking to expand your capacity and you need an engineer to design it and may have to replace your septic tank'. Hugh said Phoenix spoke to me about the Outermost kitchen, we are going to make changes in the garage/pantry storage room. 'I am working on plans for that right now and then Phoenix can come look at it with me'. Hugh 'I'm not sure if it will be a prep station or a dishwashing station'. Sarah asked if that is the laundry area? Hugh the laundry will move out.



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The August 30<sup>th</sup> 2018 BOH minutes were read and reviewed. Sarah motioned to approve the minutes as written. Jim seconded. All ayes.

### **Old Business Review of Board of Health Regulation**

Goldfield, 6 Old South Road (9-44 & 58.1) review of A/I system contract. Phoenix reported that the owners had still not provided an inspection report to the Board of Health. An inspection contract had been provided months earlier but it did not include lab testing like pH, BOD and TSS as part of the work to be performed. When contacted about this the operator did not respond. An engineering document for the system had been found in the file and included the need for specific tests, it was decided to include the document with a second letter to the owner.

Juli reported that her new septic system for Orange Peele Bakery would soon be done and she also installed an air curtain at the Bakery.

### **Health Agents Report**

The Island Grown Initiative Food Waste Project packet was reviewed by the Board. Matt Dix at Thimble Farm would like to purchase a digester for composting.

The new Tobacco 21 Law was reviewed by the Board and it was decided not to take any action.

The GIS presentation from the MV Commission was discussed with regards to how Chris Seidel at the MV Commission could prepare a map of Aquinnah for the Board of Health, the Board and the public could use it to better understand factors effecting the siting of septs and wells at no cost to us. Sarah felt strongly that we don't want that in Gay Head and it seemed like a waste of tax payer money. Jim said it can be useful for emergency responders. Juli 'wow, look at all the things this technology can do'. Sarah said some of these things seem like an invasion of privacy. Juli, 'yeah it is a little scary'. Phoenix said I don't think we would be paying for the sophisticated vehicle locating technology, just the no cost maps. Sarah 'tell them to go away, let the police and fire use it; you can turn the location off in your phone'. Jim 'good luck with that, you can't really turn it off'. Jim 'table it for now'.

Phoenix asked how the food at Public Safety Day should be permitted next year. It was decided that they should get a Temp Food Permit but wave the fee and they do not need for a ServSafe.

After the Pow Wow recap it was decided that Phoenix should follow up with Clyde about the need for a ServSafe for the Pow Wow next year.



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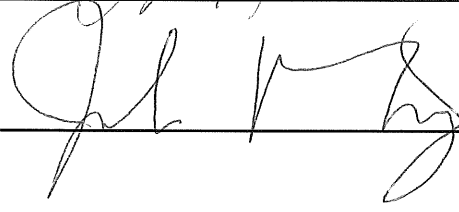
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Sarah motioned to adjourn the BOH meeting. Juli seconded. All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

**Approved:**

  
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Submitted by: Phoenix Becker