

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

Minutes

Thursday, March 7th, 2019
Aquinnah Town Hall, 6pm

Present: James Glavin, and Sarah Saltonstall

Absent: Juli Vanderhoop

Also Present: Mike Thompkins, David Giles, Jed Smith and Phoenix Becker.

Meeting came to order at 6:01pm

New Business Items for BOH Review and Discussion

Public Hearing:

Giles, 4 Raymonds Hill Road (6-102.4 house, 6-102.8 guest house). Mike Thompkins presented plans, explaining that the lot had been subdivided necessitating a separate septic for the former guest house (6-102.8). Note the plans were submitted under map and lot 6-102.4 but the system is actually for the new lot 6-102.8. Property owner David Giles was present. Mike present the plans for a system with the leach field 26' from the wetlands and also requiring a variance for the well. Mike noted that the prior septic was also 26' from the wetlands. Jim asked if they would have to go to ConCom? Mike said yes. David said I spoke with Sarah Thulin and it goes to BOH first. Sarah ask if the system establishes a precedent? Jim, if there is a president it was set by the first system. Jim asked if this is for a three-bedroom system? Mike, yes, it is a one bedroom with two for future expansion. Jim, you plan to add on? Sarah 'Title 5 is a minimum of three-bedroom septics any way. Sarah 'I move to approve this plan as presented'. Jim 2ed. All ayes.

Close Public Hearing 6:08 pm

Born, 6 Clay Pit Road (4-104) septic upgrade. Mike presented plans for a six-bedroom system, a three-bedroom existing house, one bedroom being added to the existing garage and two bedrooms for future expansion. Sarah noted that she went and inspected the existing system with Doug Cooper and it was operating normally. Mike, the soil test was done in 2008, this would replace the existing system to provide capacity to add the garage bedroom. Sarah, this is all new to us, we are just hearing about it. Jim, yes. Sarah, this is not just about the garage. Mike, yes, it is a whole new six-bedroom system. Jim, are there break out issues? Mike, not with Presby systems, we are finding that infiltrators are getting squashed, so we are using Presbies now, especially near driveways. Sarah 'I think we should talk to Reid before going forward. Has this gone to any other boards?' Mike 'this does not need to go to any other



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boards, it does not need ConCom'. Jim 'you can't see this from Menemsha pond, can you?' Sarah 'yes you can, look at the map. I feel like the sly fox got in to the hen house'. Jim asked how the system area was calculated. Mike said the 660 gallons is based on the pipe length, but the area is almost enough for seven bedrooms. Sarah 'how many six-bedroom systems do we have in town?' Jim and Mike both said there are a number. Jim, six bedrooms is the max for a 1,500-gallon septic tank so people do that. Jim 'Sarah, if you are having reservations, we could approve it at four bedrooms and then if they want two more beds in the future then they could come back to us'.

Jed Smith arrived and told the board that he was building the garage for Born and they currently have living space above the garage and it could be a bedroom if they added a bathroom. 'I don't know if they are hung up on six bedrooms because they have not plan to expand at this time'. Jed said Matt Born though he could add bedrooms but not bathrooms. Jim 'we are not concerned with the number of bathrooms, only the number of bedrooms. Jed 'so they may not need to new system at this time'. Mike 'well their motivation was for further expansion down the road'. Sarah 'it comes as a big surprise'. Jed 'I think there was a misunderstanding on Matt's part on what was required'. Mike 'we could go ahead with a four-bedroom system now, or I could go talk to Reid'. Jim 'you can let us know or you can invest for the future'. Jed 'it makes sense to just use the existing system'. Jim 'if we approve the existing system as a four bedroom, but we are in agreement that the existing system would be adequate, but if you choose to just use your existing pits then you would need to come back to the BOH and let us know that is your choice'. Sarah 'I motion that we approve this system as a four-bedroom system'. Jim 2ed. All ayes. Jim 'come back to us so our file reflects what actually exists'.

Cerick/Fitzgerald, 3 Driftwood Lane (4-46). Mike asked to speak with the board about Cerick's system, which was not on the agenda, but recent erosion had left the D-box exposed on the beach. Mike said the owner would like to teardown the house soon and build a new house further back, as a temporary fix they would like to move one section of trench further back so the house could be used for the summer. Jim 'you want an emergency permit for a limited amount of time'. Mike 'after the summer they need a permanent fix which would include a mounded system because it is close to ground water'. Mike 'this is a temporary fix to get through the summer'. Sarah 'the exterior stairs shake unsafely when people go up. I think there should be a house inspection, I don't think it is safe, the deck could fall off'. Jim 'that would be Lenny. How do you feel about the temporary fix?' Sarah 'fine, tear up my beach plums'. Jim 'it would have to be temporary, final date in September'.

Health Agent Status Vote

Jim 'I would like to motion to establish Phoenix as the Health Agent for the Aquinnah Board of Health. Sarah 2ed. All ayes.



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The January 24th, 2019 BOH minutes were read and reviewed. Jim motioned to approve the minutes as written. Sarah seconded. All ayes.

Old Business Review of Board of Health Regulation

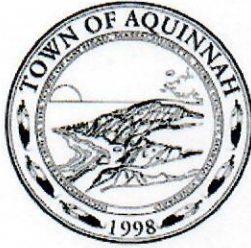
Didiuk, 6 Old South Road (9-44 & 58.1) review of A/I system contract. Phoenix informed the Board that the requested inspection report had been received from Mike Alberice and he plans to dig up and evaluate the UV lights in the spring when the ground warms up.

Budget

Jim, so everything for FY19 is now good? Phoenix, we resolved that at FinCom. Sarah, Public Health Nursing includes that stupid mosquito testing? Jim, beach testing is not optional, is Nursing something we can get down? Jim 'Up-Island Council on Aging is a fixed expense with no wiggle room, there is no wiggle room in LDO wages, so we are going to get beat up on Phoenix's wages'. Jim 'you need to make a list of BOH work tasks and how long it takes you'. Sarah, you should do that, include nursing, restaurant inspections and beach testing. Jim, this is what we need to do to make a case for our budget. Sarah 'why does the Up-Island Council on Aging have so many people working there and you have to pay for the lunch and yoga classes? Why is that not paid for out of our \$52,000?' Jim 'if we are being squeezed let's squeeze the COA.' Jim 'look at how many hours a year for things like Health Agents meetings and BOH meetings, emergency preparedness, submit it as a list and leave the professional development in there'. Jim 'we need to know what the nursing contract is, does it say it will be more next year? I don't believe it will be in the contract'. Sarah 'half of the nursing population goes to the Tribe's nurse'. Jim 'we have to negotiate for our self on the Nursing'. Sarah 'what is the breakdown of the COA budget?' Jim 'call the COA and ask her to make her COA budget case'. Sarah, how many people from Aquinnah use the COA? Sarah, the COA budget does not say what their services are. Jim 'I motion that we accept this budget as presented'. Sarah 2ed. All ayes.

Casino

Jim said I'd like to talk about the casino, how do you feel about it Sarah? Sarah 'the dump trucks have been going down my road all day long for 10 days, the trucks scare my dog, it wrecks the road that I'm responsible for maintaining'. Jim 'I'm concerned about health oversight concerns for the casino operations'. Sarah 'the town has no oversight'. Jim 'I think it is moot and we have an obligation to protect health in town. Is there any liability on the town if they build an unsafe building? The devils in the details, just because one judge told them they could build this casino, does that really nullify the original agreement that they would follow town rules to become a Tribe'. Jim 'I propose we write a letter to the



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Selectmen saying we want to work in concert with the Selectmen, we would like to have a consultation with the town's attorney or have access to what they have already learned to define what our rights are'. Sarah, OK. Jim 'I'm just concerned about our liability as BOH'. Jim 'Phoenix, approach the State Health Department about what our permitting obligations and vulnerabilities are. Try calling MHOA for a legal consult'.

Health Agents Report

Phoenix reported that Natalie continues to be very cold at the LDO even while using three space heaters and has been asking for insulation for the attendant's shack. Jim 'I will look into if we still have that money that was appropriated at Town Meeting several years ago for LDO improvements.

Phoenix informed the Board of a recent inspection report for Map 5 Lot 55, 328 Lighthouse Road that conditionally passes. The well is 70' from the septic and needs to be tested and the laundry is discharging to the ground surface. Jim 'yes, write them a letter referring to the report asking them to correct'.

Phoenix told the Board that she had been informed that the Church is interested in applying for the Septic Repair Loan Program for the Parsonage septic. What kind of financial documents should we ask a nonprofit to provide? Jim 'ask for a proforma (projected) budget for the property's income'.

Jim told Phoenix to look into getting a Health Agent's badge or some kind of photo ID on a lanyard like other Island Health Agents wear.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Approved:





Submitted by: Phoenix Becker