



Town of Ayer

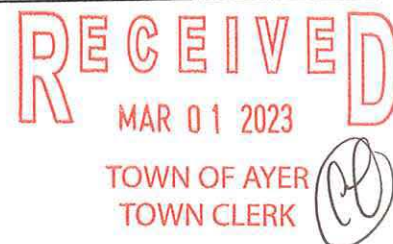
BOARD OF HEALTH

Town Hall – 1 Main Street – Ayer, MA 01432 – 978-772-882 ext. 145

Minutes of February 13, 2023 - Ayer Board of Health Meeting

Location: 1st Floor Meeting room, Ayer Town Hall

Meeting was recorded and broadcast by APAC



Members Present: Stephen Slarsky – Chair; Patricia Peters; Pamela Papineau

Also Present: Samantha Benoit, Administrative Coordinator

Stephen Slarsky called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

The Board decided against entering Executive Session since there is no new information.

Public Input:

There were no members of the public present for public input.

Old Business:

The Board acknowledges the application submitted by the Ayer Motor Inn for a License to Operate a Motel/Hotel. A public hearing for the application will be held on February 27, 2023 at 6:00pm at the Ayer Town Hall.

The Board acknowledges the application submitted by Mimi's Place for a License to Operate a Motel/Hotel. The attorney representing Mimi's Place asked that a public hearing not be scheduled until all issues with the building have been resolved.

At the time of the last meeting, January 9, 2023, two Trash Hauler applications had lapsed, both companies have submitted the appropriate paperwork in time for this meeting.

New Business:

Cyndi Lavin, of the Stone Soup Kitchen, joined the meeting to discuss ongoing efforts to introduce a Harm Reduction Program. The Stone Soup Kitchen does support the Harm Reductions Program, the minister at the Living Water Fellowship has decided not to host the van in their parking lot. C. Lavin is looking for support and other location ideas from the Board of Health.

S. Slarsky noted that location selection is difficult given the nature of the program.

P. Papineau asked if any of the other churches in town may be able to host the program.

S. Slarsky believes most of the other churches have schools attached to them, and it would be best to have the program not near a school.

C. Lavin suggested St. Andrew's Church Hall, but was reluctant to ask since they have a substitute minister.

S. Slarsky felt it might not be the best location since St. Andrew's is located in the middle of a neighborhood.

C. Lavin explained that the Harm Reduction Program van is not just for needle exchanges but it also offers referrals for people looking for help.

S. Slarsky proposed the Nashoba Valley Medical Center's parking lot, and he was willing to speak with the hospital's administration.

C. Lavin also suggested the Devens Plaza, since it would help to bring this service to residents of Shirley.

P. Peters asked if the van could be hosted on Town property.

S. Slarsky asked S. Benoit to look into the parameters of this program, to better help determine a location.

P. Peters asked where the other vans are located.

C. Lavin noted that the closest van is located in Fitchburg, and this would be the first van in Middlesex County.

C. Lavin suggested Gage as a possible location, since it is across the street from the Living Water Fellowship and has a large parking lot.

P. Papineau also suggest Gervias Ford overflow lot, but noted that the owner's would need to be asked.

S. Slarsky noted that private business might be concerned about how hosting such a program will affect their business.

S. Slarsky asked how often the van would be in the area.

C. Lavin explained it would be once or twice a month, it could increase with need but how often could be negotiated with owner of the property.

C. Lavin reiterated that the point of this program is to get people into rehab.

Nashoba Update:

S. Slarsky presented the update since Bridgette Braley was not in attendance.

Two licenses were granted for the Mobile Home Parks located at 11 Groton School Rd. and 25 Groton School Rd.

Two Food Permits were issued for The Next Stop Pub and Apple Valley.

Health inspections were conducted at Dunkin' Donuts, McDonald's, Taco Bell, Subway, Nashoba Valley Medical Center, Apple Valley, Tiny's, Archer's Mobile, and Pinard's Florist. The inspection done at Deven's Pizza was concerning, and the Board would like to know if they are to be reinspected.

A copy of a letter sent to Ruth Maxant-Schultz, of 17 Taft St. dated January 26, 2023, regarding the lack of a n Animal and Fowl Permit issued by the Board of Health was shared with the Board. The Board reviewed the letter.

S. Slarsky asked S. Benoit to contact Julie Thomas, the Barn Inspector, to see if there were any updates on the property for the next meeting.

Call Log:

There was some general discussion about the call log. The Board acknowledges that a call received about the number of COVID cases at the Apple Valley facility.

Motion: P. Peters made a motion to accept the Minutes of December 5, 2022.

Seconded: S. Slarsky

Motion Passes (3-0)

Motion: P. Peters made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 9, 2023 as amended.

Seconded: P. Papineau

Motion Passes (3-0)

Administrative Matters:

A letter from Central Mass Mosquito Control was submitted, in the FY'24 rate was discussed. There was no increase.

Motion: P. Peters made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Hauler Permits for United Hauling and M. Sullivan and Sons.

Seconded: P. Papineau

Motion Passes (3-0)

Motion: P. Papineau made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded: P. Peters

Motion Passes (3-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 6:11pm.



Stéphen Slarsky, Chair



Respectfully Submitted,

Samantha Benoit, Administrative Coordinator