



Town of Ayer

BOARD OF HEALTH

Town Hall – 1 Main Street – Ayer, MA 01432 – 978-772-8220 ext. 145

Monday, February 29, 2024

In-Person Open Session Meeting Minutes

This meeting was recorded by APAC.

This meeting took place in the Second Floor Meeting Room of the Town Hall.

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

Absent: Bridgette Braley, Health Agent

Also Present: Samantha Benoit, Administrative Coordinator

Pamela Papineau called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Public Input:

There were no members of the public present for input.

Tobacco Hearing – Pauline’s Variety

Joan Hamlett, from the Tobacco Control Alliance, and Dashreth Patel, owner of Pauline’s Variety presented the circumstances and request to the Board. This is the second violation for this establishment in regard to the pricing of cigars. This violation comes with a \$200 fine and a seven-day suspension. J. Hamlett explained that the owner and employees have been educated by the Tobacco Control Alliance, and they have not had a major violation since 2006. D. Patel is willing to pay the fine but would like some leniency on the seven-day suspension.

Motion: S. Slarsky made a motion to enforce the \$200 fine and state minimum of a one-day suspension of the sale of tobacco products and the additional six days are to be held and served in the event there is another violation in the next 36 months. The six-day suspension will be served in addition to any fines and suspension days accrued from the new violation.

Seconded: P. Peters

Motion Passes (3-0)

Old Business:

Jenna Montgomery, from Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, presented an update on the Harm Reduction Program. Community Health Connections, which provides services to 12 of the 14 towns associated with NABOH, has offered to take up the Harm Reduction Program. They already have a van and have spoken with the Director of the Ayer Library to discuss the possibility of hosting the van in the library’s parking lot on Mondays. Community Health Connections is looking to start the program in July at the start of the fiscal year, but if the funds became available, they may be able to start sooner.

S. Slarsky agrees that it makes sense to start the program in July.

P. Papineau asked about advertising and community outreach.

J. Montgomery will be looking into how to address community concerns and advertising.

Board members have been invited to attend future meetings with Community Health Connections to discuss next steps.

There has been no change or contact with the owners of 3 Union St. and 32 Washington St. regarding their Keeping of Animal and Fowl Permits. It will need to be confirmed that those two properties still have chickens.

The Board will be holding a public hearing to discuss and adopt Hotel and Motel Regulations at their March 11, 2024 meeting.

New Business:

P. Papineau presented the Annual Town Report for the Board of Health. The issuance of the one Motel/Hotel License was added to the report.

Discussion:

Private Wells will be the next regulation to be discussed.

Nashoba Update:

B. Braley was absent from the meeting, there was no Nashoba Update

Call Log:

No discussion on the call log.

Motion: P. Peters made a motion to accept the Minutes of February 12, 2024 as amended.

Seconded: S. Slarsky

Motion Passes (3-0)

Administrative Matters:

P. Papineau spoke about an email she received from PACE about the Shepley Hill Feasibility Study. The Army is proposing some changes to the designation of the aquifer in that area. The Board agrees with PACE's concerns as long as their concerns are in-line with DEP's concerns.

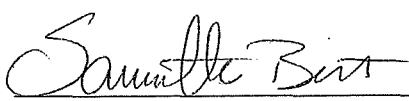
Motion: S. Slarsky made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded: P. Peters

Motion Passes (3-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 6:23pm.


Pamela Papineau, *Chair*


Respectfully Submitted,
Samantha Benoit, *Administrative Coordinator*

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