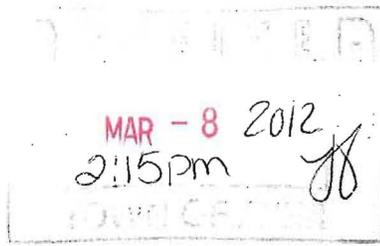


Ayer Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2012



Call to order 5:00 p.m.

Members present: Mary Spinner, Chair; Marilyn McMillan, Member  
Margaret Kidder, Clerk

Also present: Ruth Terry, Administrative Assistant; Bridgette Braley, Health Agent (NABH)

- **M. McMillan motioned to approve the minutes of January 9, 2012, M. Spinner 2<sup>nd</sup>, A 2/0.**
- **M. Kidder motioned to approve the minutes of January 23, 2012, M. Spinner 2<sup>nd</sup>, A 2/0.**
- B. Braley discussion – She distributed NABH Activity Logs.
  - Numerous food complaints and housing issues were discussed.
    - Ah Gin Wong has reopened after inspection and permit.
    - More complaints were received re the odor at Nasoya. DEP is handling this.
    - A complaint was received about a warehouse in Ayer. The situation has been handled by DEP. We cannot contact the caller with an update because the complaint was anonymous.
    - B. Braley will look for abandoned property policies passed by other towns for M. Kidder.
    - Her current schedule is busy. When the economy is down, there are more housing issues. The increase in farmers markets also means more inspections and permits.
  - Private Well Regulations –
    - If arsenic is above the EPA limit, standard practice is to install a treatment unit and retest; homeowner then includes this in the property deed. Our regulation should clarify “for drinking water only”. There are two known drinking wells in Ayer.
    - Geothermal wells should be included. NABH does not currently permit these and follows DEP guidelines for Ayer permits. There is one geothermal well in Ayer.
    - DEP has records of local sensitive areas re wells. Ayer has West Main Street. A local board can request specific testing because of a property’s accident or known contaminant history. NABH has well records from the last 15 years and recommends residents test their water every two years.
  - Aquifer Protection Health Regulation – B. Braley does not see any changes in this regulation.
  - Infestations – Bed bugs are still an issue in several locations. Lice complaints are handled by Nashoba Nursing. Ticks are really bad now; B. Braley was covered with ticks after an inspection. The Board will put up an alert on its website about ticks and Lyme disease.
  - A law passed in September requires one person in every restaurant to be certified in allergy training. This includes soy, wheat, gluten, peanuts. Latex is also a problem but is not currently listed in the Food Code.
- Bills – None.
- Mail reviewed:
  - We have been alerted that a local lab is using the wrong value range for Nitrate in their well water test. Residents should be sure to use labs that are EPA certified; this information can be found on the U.S. EPA website.
  - M. Kidder would like to attend the Subdivision Control Law Workshop at the Planning and Zoning Conference in Worcester on March 17.
  - Two hydraulic oil spills occurred recently at Cains. This is being handled by DEP.
- We are researching how surrounding towns are handling medication disposal. There are currently two National Take Back Days scheduled each year, in which the Town of Ayer participates. We are looking at how collection and disposal are funded.
- **M. Kidder motioned to adjourn, M. McMillan 2<sup>nd</sup>, A 3/0.**  
Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Marilyn McMillan 2/27/12  
Mary Spinner - 2/27/12