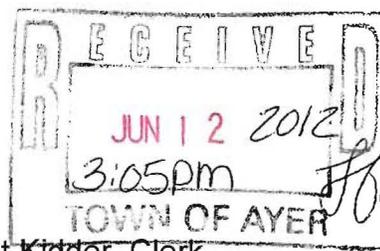


Ayer Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012



Call to order 5:00 p.m.

Members present: Mary Spinner, Chair; Margaret Kidder, Clerk

Members absent: Marilyn McMillan, Member

Also present: Ruth Terry, Administrative Assistant

- M. McMillan is in the hospital and will not be with us for awhile.
- **M. Kidder motioned to approve the minutes of April 9, 2012, M. Spinner 2nd, A 2/0.**
- The BOH meeting on May 7 was cancelled, since there was no quorum present.
- The reorganization of the Board will be handled when M. McMillan returns.
- Calvin Street fowl permit – Melissa and James Steeves were present.
 - M. Steeves distributed a breeding plan. She is in the middle of a 4- to 5-year breeding project to produce a pink chicken. These chickens are bred in spring and mature in summer. Roosters are kept in the winter and are not kept long term.
 - The other half of her chicken flock consists a small bantam breed called seramas. Ms. Steeves showed the Board a seramas that she had brought with her.
 - The total number of chickens listed on the application is the absolute maximum, including a full bin of chicks. There are only 20-30 chickens carried over from year to year.
 - The letter signed by four abutting neighbors was discussed. J. Steeves provided neighbors' comments from his Facebook page.
 - M. Steeves stated that the chickens are cared for by her; there are no mature roosters, so there is no crowing; and her neighborhood is noisy with many dogs.
 - There are two fences, including a second containment fence that goes down to pond edge.
 - The Conservation Commission must review this application prior to BOH decision.
- Permit renewals – The Board renewed six chicken permits and one miniature horse permit.
- New animal permits –
 - The 46 Pearl Street fowl permit application was reviewed.
M. Kidder motioned to approve the permit for Timothy Taylor at 46 Pearl Street, pending receipt of permit fee and comments from B. Braley, M. Spinner 2nd, A 2/0.
 - The 47 Washington Street fowl permit application was reviewed.
M. Kidder motioned to approve the permit for Laura Warner and John Bresnahan at 47 Washington Street, M. Spinner 2nd, A 2/0.
- Bills:
 - All approved and signed bill from Staples for \$327.26.
 - All approved and signed bill from MAHB for \$160.00.
- Nashoba Associated Boards of Health – Bridgette Braley, Health Agent – material review:
 - Reviewed food permit renewals and sanitary code violations.
 - The Board approved and signed the Septic Permit for 17 James Brook Way Lot 1A.
- Mail –
 - Massachusetts Dept. of Agricultural Resources "Best Management Practices for Poultry" pamphlet will be included with BOH animal permits sent out this year.
 - A year-round drop-off for medication disposal is now located at the Ayer Police Dept. Information will be posted on the BOH website.
 - The MDPH mini grant program was reviewed. We will make a wish list and prepare for quick turnaround to meet future grant deadlines.
- FYI – Town Meeting approved an additional 5 hours in the budget for the BOH Administrative Assistant, bringing the total to 15. This is a non-benefitted position.
- **M. Kidder motioned to adjourn, M. Spinner 2nd, A 2/0.**
Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Mary Spinner - 6/11/12

Margaret Kidder 6/11/12