

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Tuesday June 5, 2018 – 6:00 PM – Richmond Town Hall, 1529 State Road

PRESENT: Mr. Peter Cohen, Acting Chair; Mr. Andrew Fisher, Mr. Fred Schubert, Mr. Anthony Segal, Mr. John Olander, Health Agent, Ms. Phyllis LeBeau, Recording Secretary

GUEST: Ms. Jayne Smith, Berkshire Public Health Alliance Agent; Ms. Emilie Jarrett, R.N., Director, Community Health Association

Approval of the Minutes of the May 2018 Meeting: As there was no discussion concerning the minutes, Mr. Cohen moved that they be accepted as read. The motion was seconded and adopted by unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS:

The meeting was then turned over to Ms. Jayne Smith for her update on the Camp Russell situation. Ms. Smith reported that she visited Camp Russell on May 30th and found that they had completed almost the entire list of requirements from the State. They will be submitting a Return to Compliance form for two issues that they cannot address at this time. They are the existing fountain in the wading pool, which would be a prohibitively expensive and time-consuming project to complete as it would require dismantling the entire pool bottom to remove the fountain. Ms. Smith saw no issue with the existence of the fountain and there is no history of any problem caused by its existence. There is also a structure containing some basketball hoops which has sustained some damage to the insulation. The request from the Camp was to delay the repairs, which will cost them an additional \$20,000 over the \$190,000 already spent on upgrades and repairs.

A discussion of whether the Board has the authority to approve those requests determined that they do, indeed, have that power. Mr. Cohen moved that the Board grant Camp Russell the two requested variances. He was seconded by Mr. Fred Schubert and the motion was carried by unanimous consent.

Ms. Smith then turned to the issue of Camp Russell's request to have their permit in hand before camp opens so that they can continue to offer places at the camp for low-income children. The Board has the option to issue that permit before the final inspection is complete. Ms. Smith noted that her inspection showed that 80% of the work has been done and she is confident that everything required will be completed by the time camp opens. She requested permission from the Board to issue the permit. The Board was willing to issue the permit immediately, with the condition that a final inspection will take place during the camping season. The permit application was signed by Mr. John Olander, the Board of Health Agent.

Ms. Smith relayed the Camp's thanks to the Board for concentrating their efforts to bring the camp into full compliance. She noted that they are now the most compliant camp in her experience.

Local Non-Smoking Regulations Update: Mr. Peter Cohen directed the group's attention to the information contained in their meeting packets that included illustrations of the No-Smoking signs that will be posted in appropriate places in town. There was a discussion of specifically where the signs would be posted.

CHA and Ms. Emily Jarrett Sponsoring Dinner and Lecture – "Protect Yourself from Medicare Fraud": On Wednesday, June 6th at 5:00 - 7:00 PM at the Richmond Congregational Church. Ms. Jarrett explained that how to understand the explanation of benefits and other valuable information will be discussed. Some Board members reserved seats for the lecture.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mass. Board of Health Outbreak Net Enhanced Program: Ms. Jarrett advised that the Mass. Dept. of Public Health will be once again be sponsoring a summer program that will help to monitor and report on people who have tested positive for such diseases as E. Coli, listeria, and clusters of food and water-borne illnesses. All positive cases show up in the MAVIN system, for which Ms. Jarrett is the contact.

Emergency Planning: Ms. Jarrett reported that she had gone on the walk-through of the Emergency Dispensing Site with the Berkshire County Boards of Health. It was a review of the site itself, which is Herberg School. In previous years, each town had their own dispensing site. Since then, in the case of a need for a Mass Dispensing Site, the towns have been assigned to Regions. Richmond is under the Pittsfield umbrella. When Taconic High School's renovation is completed, it will become the central site. Pittsfield will manage the site, but the Board of Health will be informed with an Emergency Call-Down. (See list). Home-bound people will be cared for by Ms. Jarrett.

A back-up plan is in place to use the Richmond Consolidated School as an Emergency Dispensing site, as well as other possible back-up sites. Ms. Jarrett suggested that a table-top emergency drill be done in Richmond so that the people who will be involved will know what to do when the calls start coming in. In Richmond, the Emergency Manager is Mr. Steve Traver, the Fire Chief. It is difficult to get him to attend one of the Board of Health's meetings as his firefighters practice at the same time the Board does. Mr. Peter Cohen will ask again if the Fire Chief can attend one of the Board's next meetings to discuss the Emergency Plan.

Soil Evaluator Training in Western Mass: Mr. Jayne Smith announced that they are considering bringing this training to Western Mass for the first time this Fall if they can get enough people signed up. John Olander has taken and passed this training, but the idea is to get more people trained in this important skill.

Incident Command System Training Series: This is the complete system being offered as in-person training for ICF 100, 200 & 700. Mr. Peter Cohen expressed interest in pursuing this training. He will consult further with Ms. Jayne Smith as to how to go about accessing it.

Special Permit for Proposed Accessory Barn: A special permit to build an Accessory Barn on Woodlot Road has been submitted. They will require a variance as the building will be 1,400 square feet, not the required 1,000 square feet. The Board of Health has thirty days from now to approve the variance or not. Mr. Cohen asked Mr. Olander to approve the variance conditional upon seeing the construction plan to determine how the septic system will be attached to the new building and approving that plan.

Agent's Report: (See Attached) Mr. Olander went over the items in his report for the Board.

Agent's Mail: Mr. Olander noted that there is a resident in Richmond that possibly could be seeking immigrant status because of a visit to a clinic in Albany called the Industrial Medical Associates. This person was reported to have had a positive PPD in the past which is why they called the Richmond BOH, John Olander. Ms. Emilie Jarrett is familiar with the case and reported that she is in contact with the referring organization and the Mass Department of Public Health's TB Unit. A positive PPD means that at some point in the past they were exposed to TB – it does not mean that the person has the disease. Massachusetts law requires that the person go to a clinic for a medical exam. The Richmond resident in question had been advised to go to the Pittsfield TB Clinic for follow-up so that they can be cleared and treated if deemed medically necessary. There is no record of that person having complied, despite direct contact by the clinic nurse Mr. Olander reported that he is in the process of organizing his files, with help from his wife, Marge Olander.

Next Meeting – July 3, 2018: As Ms. Louise Maron will not be available for that meeting, Mr. Fred Schubert will act as Chair.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Peter Cohen moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tony Segal and carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM