

**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Great Barrington, Massachusetts
Via Zoom
December 3, 2020**

Present:

Michael Lanoue, Chairman
Ruby Chang
Peter Stanton, Vice Chair

Rebecca Jurczyk, Health Agent
Ned Saviski, Health Inspector

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

November 5th, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Discussion/Vote) Approved: 3-0 with the following amendments:

1. Glyphosate discussion removed from Board of Health speak time
2. Correction of the spelling of Chairman Michael Lanoue's name

C. SPECIAL PERMIT REVIEW

1. SP-916-20: Special Permit Application from Dan and Jenna Huggins for the expansion of a nonconforming home at 45 Pearl Street. Rebecca Jurczyk: The home is serviced by town water and sewer, and is non jurisdictional. Michael Lanoue: Recommends this goes to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Peter Stanton: Motion to pass this to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ruby Chang: Second the motion.

2. SP-914-20: Special Permit Application from Great Barrington Development, LLC, for the conversion of a former nursing home to multifamily units; 48 Apartments, serviced by town water and sewer. Currently 2 1/2 story Brick Building. Proposed to adaptively convert the existing building to rental apartments within the existing footprint. The application is filed in accordance with section 8.10 and 10.4 of the Zoning bylaw, which was passed at Special Town Meeting and is pending approval by the Attorney General. No comments from the Board of Health.

Michael Lanoue: Look for a motion to pass on to the planning board without comment. Peter Stanton filed a motion to pass on to the planning board. Ruby Chang seconds the motion.

D. BUSINESS

1. October, 2020 Correction Order: Great Barrington Housing Authority. Unit #23.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Great Barrington Housing Authority (HA) is not in attendance at this meeting. The HA has put the Resident and her Daughter up in a local motel with a food stipend. There have been two estimates for repairs to Unit #23: 1. Catamount at \$30,000., and 2. Name Unknown, an additional \$10,000.

Progress has been made but nothing definitive to address the correction order.

Matter is being seen in the courts but not being seen by the Board of Health.

Michael Lanoue: sounds like they are making progress. Seems like we should grant HA a three week extension. In our terms our deadline has passed.

Ruby Chang: Three weeks is a long time to make a decision/ Family is living in a Motel. Keep in mind the holidays and such.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Waiting on a third estimate.

Ruby Chang: Concern that it's been three weeks and Holidays are coming. Nothing will be accomplished before the New Year and the next time the Board of Health meets. Three weeks is a long time to wait. They need to reach a decision within a week or so. Should proceed after that.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Believes the extension request was meant for District Court, not the Board of Health. Seems like the HA is making progress, although slow and they should be in attendance at each meeting until resolved. Next step would be for the Board of Health to take this to Housing Court.

Michael Lanoue: Formally contact the HA and ask for an official update with their matter with the Board of Health, not District Court.

Ruby Chang: We have concerns about the general health and safety of them being placed in a motel.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Want to get back to enforcing deadlines. Was a source of moisture identified? Doesn't think a source was identified.

Michael Lanoue: According to letter, Condensation is happening from other sources of moisture. We need an official update. Directing Rebecca to send an official inquiry to the HA for an update of the status.

2. 232 Stockbridge Road: Continued discussion from the November, 2020 BOH Meeting.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Sent a letter and a fine issued in November. Property owners obtained legal Counsel and are appealing and a hearing is scheduled January 13th, 11:00AM.

3. Updates Related to Public Health and Housatonic Water Works.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Small update. The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) have filed a request for information. The inquiry was for Complaint and Rate information.

Ruby Chang: Letter has various deadlines. The Department of Environmental Protection is addressing these deadlines and there's not much more we can do at this point other than encourage people to test the water frequently.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Only a couple people picked up water testing kits and we never heard back from any of them.

E.

COMMUNITY COVID-19:

1. BOH Q & A

Rebecca Jurczyk: Steady rise in cases. Color rating went from Green to Yellow. November – 16 cases, most in three household clusters. December – 10 cases, most in two households. Appears to be happening in low income housing.

Berkshire Meadows not on the list.

Peter Stanton: Need to be careful in conversation about naming people and organizations. Should we plan on getting a report each Friday to see changes, Two weeks is a little long with significant changes.

Ruby Chang: Any problems with masking, social distancing, parties? Received email about extra funding possibly for education materials. Do we need more signs to remind people to take precautions?

2. CITIZEN Q & A

Nan Wile: Town Website is not easily digestible. We as a community need to be proactive about educating the public. The information should be easily digestible.

Michael Lanoue: As a Board, we like to be notified. For public access people should go through the State Dashboard. Local information can be misinterpreted.

Nan Wile: Interested in having a safe holiday gathering guide in a local paper.

F.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Permit Renewals

Department move to 2nd Floor

Ruby Chang: Concerned about lack of business in Restaurants. Is food being inspected?

Rebecca Jurczyk: We are still inspecting regularly.

G.

BOARD OF HEALTH SPEAK TIME - None

H.

CITIZEN SPEAK TIME: None

I.

MEDIA: None

L

ADJOURNMENT – (Roll Call Vote)

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ned Saviski

Health Inspector