

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Great Barrington, Massachusetts
Via Zoom
February 4th, 2021

Present:

Michael Lanoue, Chairman
Ruby Chang
Peter Stanton, Vice Chair

Rebecca Jurczyk, Health Agent
Ned Saviski, Health Inspector

A. CALL TO ORDER (Roll Call Vote)

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

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

January 7th, 2020 (Discussion/Vote)
Approved: 3-0

C. SPECIAL PERMIT REVIEW

SP #919-21: Application from 17 Mahaiwe Group LLC, c/o Brian Hazelton, Great Barrington, MA for a mixed use development at 17 Mahaiwe Street consisting of a single family home and a contractors' yard.

Brian Hazelton: Proposing to remodel a barn into a mixed use building for his business. A bathroom will be connected to the sewer system in his residence.

Rebecca Jurczyk: No real comments. Several people would like to speak on this. No comments from the Board at this time.

Michelle Loubert- Resident, 70 Division Street: Concerned because this is a high traffic neighborhood. There will be more trucks and will not be a quiet place.

Barbara Matz- Resident, 22 Mahaiwe Street: Concerned about what permits Brian is seeking. It appears as there has been a lot of expansion already. Would like the Board to consider the following concerns:

1. Would like to know the impervious surface area of the lot and what portion of the lot will be taken by the Contractor's yard.
2. Would like to know the percentage of permeable versus impermeable surface area. Concerned about the pollution also. Would the Contractor be willing to pursue their own pollution research?
3. Consider the added noise, dust and exhaust from the trucks. Additional noise is buzzing tools, loud hammering and back up beeping.

Michael Kernan-Resident, 12 Mahaiwe Street: Environment is important. Lawn in back of barn covered with stone so vehicles can be stored there. Five mature maple trees to be taken down. Agrees with all comments made by neighbor Barbara Matz.

Michael Lanoue: Recognize and sympathize with the issue that's raised. We're recommending board and can pass along with recommendations or with no comment. We will suggest that we pass this along with comment that the Board shares concerns with the Neighbors.

Ruby Chang: Health wise we want to maintain the health of any neighborhood.

Extremely concerned about the noise and pollution. This does cause health problems.

Michael Lanoue: Reiterates lending support in that neighborhood. Should not pass along without recommendation comments. Scrutiny should be placed on the neighbor's health.

Ruby Chang: The runoff may contain toxins and must be contained. Need to make sure the runoff doesn't get into the surrounding neighborhood.

Michael Lanoue: Not recommending in favor or against, just providing comments. Can make our comments known. Select Board and Zoning are governing Boards.

Motion to pass along to the Select Board

Peter Stanton: Motion to pass along this permit request with special consideration around the noise pollution, runoff, pollution and the Neighbor's concerns.

Ruby Chang: Second the motion

Michael Lanoue: In agreement Peter Stanton: Motion to pass along this permit request with special consideration around the noise pollution, runoff, pollution and the Neighbor's concerns.

Ruby Chang: Second the motion

Michael Lanoue: In agreement.

SP #919-21: Application from 17 Mahaiwe Group LLC, c/o Brian Hazelton, Great Barrington, MA for the expansion of a nonconforming barn at 17 Mahaiwe Street, Great Barrington. Recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals * (Discussion/ Vote)

Peter Stanton: Motion to pass along this permit request with special consideration around the noise pollution, runoff, pollution and the Neighbor's concerns.

Ruby Chang: Second the motion

Michael Lanoue: In agreement

SP #917-21: Special Permit Application from Frank Leonard and Ruthann Mirchin, for the expansion of a nonconforming structure at 73 Castle Avenue, Great Barrington.

Recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Rebecca Jurczyk: This is Town water and town sewer so it is otherwise non-jurisdictional.

Michael Lanoue: Nothing jurisdictional, looks like an expansion of a structure.

Ed Abrahams: Pre-existing – non-conforming. Close to the property line, that is why they need a permit. Building an addition.

Peter Stanton: Motion to pass this along without comment.

Ruby Chang: Second the motion

Michael Lanoue: In agreement

D. BUSINESS

1. Update on COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics in South County:

Rebecca Jurczyk: Going well –running smooth. Managed by Fairview Hospital. Availability for those over 75. Will update the town website with when and where to get vaccine. As we get more vaccine we will open more clinics. Directing people now to website www.getvaccinatedberkshires.org.

Heather Barbieri is working directly with Senior Center to help people get signed up. Can go to a clinic anywhere in the State.

Ruby Chang: Healthcare workers including home health care, can get vaccinated in Phase 1.

Rebecca Jurczyk: Any Caregivers can get the vaccine.

2. 23 Bernard Gibbons Drive:

Rebecca Jurczyk: Found mold but it was attached to adjoining unit's sheetrock.
Michael Lanoue: Double layer, can't rip it out – on the backside of the other unit.
Can't remove it, will have to mitigate the wall in place.
Ruby Chang: What is the plan moving forward? Written what they've done but not what they plan to do so this doesn't happen again.
Michael Lanoue: At least it's moving forward and measurable progress is being made.
Rebecca Jurczyk: Should have an inspection of the unit prior to re-occupying. If not maybe a formal vote by the Board of Health.

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

Re-occurring agenda item, only new concerns and/or updates will be shared.

E. COMMUNITY COVID-19:

- **BOH Q & A:**
Michael Lanoue: Any questions
Rebecca Jurczyk: Cases are significantly down, mainly due to congregate care facilities. Numbers were high due to end of year holidays. Maven report is only a snapshot of time, it can change five minutes later. Command center announced business capacity limits increase changes.
- **CITIZEN Q & A:**
Michael Lanoue: Move this to Citizen Speak Time

F. HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Rebecca Jurczyk: Will send January Report
Nothing of note to add.

G. BOARD OF HEALTH SPEAK TIME:

Nothing Further

H. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

Barbara Matz, 22 Mahaiwe Street: Hope the Board's opinion is taken seriously. Request using the stronger opinions of Ruby Chang.

Denise Forbes, 325 North Plain Road: Concerned about the Bridge Street Housing Project. Contaminants were found on the property. Concerned about low income tenants and Dioxins, PCP's, and flood plains. Cleaning up this property should be a priority. Something should be done, we should take action.

Michael Lanoue: Shares concerns but the EPA has jurisdiction. Permits were issued through the EPA..

Trevor Forbes, 325 North Plain Road: Could become a board of health issue. Down the line we could have health issues.

Ruby Chang: Huge issue staring at us. We could ask the DEP what's going on. We need to request some answers about health risks.

Nan Wiles, 909 Main Street: Capping approved by DEP. CDC says this has been contained – not remediated.

Ruby Chang: Town has a responsibility to its citizens. Need to clarify this before anyone moves in. First step is to gather information.

Denise Forbes: The Berkshire Edge had an article about this two weeks ago.

Michael Lanoue: No other questions.

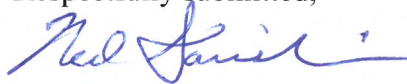
I. MEDIA TIME

Nothing Further

J. ADJOURNMENT:

8:06 PM (Roll Call Vote)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ned Saviski", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ned Saviski
Health Inspector