

Michael Lanoue, Chair
Peter Stanton, Vice Chair
Ruby Chang, MD

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TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES 334 MAIN STREET- GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230 THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019 AT 6:30PM

PRESENT:

Dr. Ruby Chang
Michael Lanoue
Peter Stanton

Health Inspector: Locke Larkin
Health Agent: Rebecca Jurczyk

A. CALL TO ORDER

Michael Lanoue called the meeting to order at 6:35PM.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 5, 2019

MOTION: Peter Stanton motioned to approve the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes.

SECOND: Ruby Chang

VOTE: 3-0

C. SPECIAL PERMIT REVIEW:

#891-19 Application from Terrence and Terri Coughlin for a Special Permit for a Tourist Home Bed and Breakfast establishment per Section 7.16 and 10.4 of the Zoning Bylaw, for the property at 98 Division Street, Great Barrington. The proposal includes the renovation of the existing single family home.

Attorney, Nick Arienti presented the proposed project to the Board of Health. Mr. Arienti said that the intention is to convert an existing single family, 8 bedroom home into a 5 bedroom Bed and Breakfast with 4 rentable suites. Health Agent, Ms. Jurczyk said the existing septic system can accommodate up to 9 bedrooms. Ms. Jurczyk said that before the Health Department can give the official blessing for this type of business the owners will need to obtain an annual lodging permit as well as an annual food permit. Prior to obtaining an annual food permit the owners will need to have the Health Department conduct a kitchen inspection to ensure that the existing kitchen meets commercial kitchen code requirements. If the kitchen needs repairs or renovations, the Health Department will need to review and approve all construction. Dr. Ruby Chang suggested that the owners may want to conduct a comprehensive lead test of the interior and exterior. Dr. Ruby Chang said that lead poisoning is serious health concern, especially in the Berkshires where there is a large stock of older homes. Mr. Arienti said that a test of this magnitude would be cost prohibitive to the owners. Dr. Chang said that it is likely children will be staying with family at this renovated Bed and Breakfast and it is her suggestion that if a lead test cannot be completed than the owners consider a disclaimer to guests with children under 6 years old.

MOTION: Peter Stanton motioned to positively recommend Special Permit #891-19 to the

Selectboard with the following conditions; the homeowners secure all necessary lodging, food, kitchen, or other Board of Health Permits prior to opening and that the homeowners consider testing the interior and exterior for the presence of lead.

SECOND: Dr. Ruby Chang

VOTE: 3-0

D. BUSINESS

- Review of Massachusetts Association of Health Boards Marijuana Regulations Template.

The Board reviewed the draft regulations and requested that the Health Agent send them for review to the town's legal counsel. Dr. Ruby Chang asked that this topic be placed as a priority for future meetings. Dr. Chang said that we have an obligation to the public to place health and safety parameters on these type of establishments. Ms. Jurczyk asked the Board if they were all in agreement to pursue drafting and adopting marijuana retail establishment regulations. The Board said they did feel that regulations and Local Board of Health oversight was necessary. Dr. Chang asked the Health Agent to set up a meeting with the Town Manager and members of the Planning Board and Selectboard. Dr. Chang emphasized that we all need to be on the same page in terms of issuing licenses for additional marijuana establishments.

- Review of an Emergency Dispensing Site Procedures.

The Emergency Dispensing site is the Monument Valley Middle School's gymnasium. Ms. Jurczyk said this plan is review and updated annually to ensure that the most accurate information is included. Health Agent, Rebecca Jurczyk said that each board member would have a role and responsibility in an activated emergency dispensing site. Ms. Jurczyk said that the Health Department recently published an advisory warning community members and visitors of the continuing measles outbreak in various parts of the north east. Ms. Jurczyk said that if there happened to be a confirmed case of measles in the community and community expose was a high concern one of our EDS would be activated.

E. HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- Health Agent Report

Health Inspector, Locke Larkin review May's inspections and permit tally with the Board.

F. BOARD OF HEALTH SPEAK TIME

G. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

Michelle Loubert, Division Street, Great Barrington. Ms. Loubert requested that the Board of Health take the matter of licensing marijuana establishments very seriously. Ms. Loubert said that Great Barrington is entertaining multiple host agreements. Ms. Loubert said that a large scale, industrial type marijuana farm will be applying to the Town for a host agreement in the upcoming weeks. Ms. Loubert said this is a serious health concerns for neighbors and residents. Ms. Loubert said that when the Board of Health is considering regulations they need to consider the whole picture of future businesses, all businesses will not be like the one on Route 7, Theory Wellness, some may be very large additions to the community.

H. MEDIA TIME

I. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Peter Stanton, seconded by Ruby Chang, with a unanimous vote the Board of Health adjourned the meeting at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Jurczyk
Health Agent