



Town of Sandisfield

Board of Health
66 Sandisfield Rd, Suite 5
Sandisfield, MA 01255

Sandisfield Board of Health

Meeting ~~Agenda~~ MINUTES

Wednesday, Aug 9, 2023 @ 5:30 pm
Old Town Hall, 3 Silverbrook Rd, Sandisfield, MA
Hybrid: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82157651944>

BOH Members Present In-Person: Keith Larson (Chair), Brigitte Ruthman, Steven Rubenstein

Others Present: Jayne Smith (Agent), Ronald Pachulski (Resident), ^{Chris} Bragdon, ^{Dave} Moulthrop

Meeting started at 5:32 pm

1. Administrative

- a) Approval of Minutes from July 12, 2023 Meeting
- b) Approval of Minutes from June 14, 2023 Meeting

Jayne explained that she did not have time to do the meeting. We are still trying to find someone to do the meeting. She asked if there was any of the BOH members who would be willing to do at this meeting and the BOH gave no reply. Jayne explained to BOH members that they need to figure out who is going to do minutes.

2. New Business

- a) **Public Health Nursing Quarterly Report:** Jayne went over the FY23 Q4/Annual Report from the SBPHC Public Health Nursing program. It included a breakdown of diseases per town in FY23 vs FY22. Briggitt asked if there was a breakdown of general population vs the nursing home population. Jayne explained if there is anything immediate pops up that the BOH will be notified immediately.
- b) **Special Permit Application: 40 Veits Rd**
Jayne reviewed the proposal with the BOH which is asking for a special permit to put an addition onto an existing non-conforming building. The septic system is located on the other side of the road, which they had permission to do originally. Jayne explained that the BOH is mostly concerned with making sure the septic system is appropriately designed for the increase in flow. The original septic system is designed for a 3-bedroom house vs the 6 bedrooms that will exist under this proposal.

Jayne suggested that the Board of Health indicate that they do not have an objection to this special permit as long as the septic system is expanded to accommodate the increase of flow. Steve R. made a motion to accept Jayne's recommendation.
- c) **Septic Installation: 18 Silverbrook Rd**
This septic system was reported to be approved under the previous health agent. Jayne visited the site, where the installer, Mike Hewins, had already substantially completed the system. There is nothing in the file and the paperwork is thought to have been in Victor's files and never returned after his death. No action is needed. Jayne just wanted to be sure that the BOH was aware of the situation.

3. Old Business

a) Housing Updates

- **12 West Hubbard Rd, Sandisfield MA:** Jayne explained that the Owner has been given an Order to Correct, including providing a written report by Friday, 8/11/23 followed by a full inspection on 8/16/23. She was given one extension. Jayne confirmed that she will be going with the police and someone from her office. Brigitte asked if Jayne could explain what happens if the trailer is not habitable. Jayne responded that it will document that she should not be living there, then the Board of Health would be convened and the house would be deemed unfit for human habitation/condemned. The report will be sent to the BOH.
- **12 Dodd Rd, Sandisfield, MA:** Jayne presented a letter requesting an inspection that will be sent to 12 Dodd Rd for an inspection. Brigitte expressed concern that there are a lot of cars outside of the house, feeling it is indicative of an increased number of people living there. Jayne replied that we will be focusing on BOH matters.

4. Agent Updates

Jayne reported that Tri-town Health Department continues to negotiate their contract with Jonathan. SBPHC is preparing to hire a Shared Agent who will start working with Sandisfield BOH.

Steve R. reported that he had issues logging onto the online course Jayne had sent out to the Local Boards of Health. Jayne was willing to troubleshoot and encouraged the BOH members to take the trainings.

Jayne mentioned that the Sandisfield BOH should designate an alternate for the SBPHC meetings. The primary representative from Sandisfield is Steve Rubenstein. The alternate does not necessarily need to be a BOH member. Meetings are held on Fridays from 9-10:30 in the Great Barrington Town Offices with a zoom option. It is important for the towns to represent their interests to the program, especially as we get additional staffing to do the work.

Jayne mentioned to the BOH that the Berkshire VNA has stopped providing new VNA services in many small rural towns, particularly in South County.

5. BOH Member Updates

Steve R. asked what the status was of the community needs assessment. Jayne replied that the State DPH wants us to put additional assessment activities on hold until their remain

6. Citizen Speak Time

_____ mentioned that the trailer structure at 12 W. Hubbard Rd was referred to as a "residence" earlier in the meeting and she wanted to be sure that it was noted that it is a mobile camper. Jayne replied that it would be noted appropriately in the minutes.

Ron Palchulski showed interest in going to the upcoming SBPHC meeting. He asked why if 12 W Hubbard goes to court why it is a different court than the Town is pursuing with zoning. Jayne replied that we are looking at health issues (septic, electricity, water, cleanliness) and not zoning issues.

Topics Not Anticipated by the Board

Jayne let the BOH know that the scheduled vaccine clinic is on September 15th. We are going to have our flu clinics on schedule and when the updated booster is released, work with CHP to have them come in and do the COVID booster clinics.

Jayne mentioned that she has created a list of complaints so they can be addressed when we have more capacity.

The BOH was surprised that no one attended the meeting. Jayne mentioned that she is going to ask the Town to look into a webinar format.

Meeting adjourned @ 6:09PM

Brigitte L. Ruffin Sept 13, 23

/ *[Signature]* 09-13-23