



Town of Oak Bluffs
Board of Health
P.O. Box 1327
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
508-693-3554 Ext. 127

William White
Chair

James Butterick
Thomas Zinno
Board Members

Garrett Albiston
Health Agent

Alexa Arieta
Assistant Health Agent

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 2023 – 10:00 AM

In accordance with Governor Baker's emergency modification of the Open Meeting Law
this meeting was held virtually.

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Garrett Albiston, Alexa Arieta, Lorna Welch, Reid Silva, Stephanie Staszak

At 10:00 AM, Mr. White opened the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering on behalf of Catherine Deyo, Trustee of the Deyo Family Trust – 20 John Wesley Ave., Map 3, Parcel 90**

- Variance Request:

- 1) Septic tank to property line 10' required: 3' proposed

- 2) Leaching facility to property line 10' required: 5' proposed

Reid Silva shares his screen and explains the application, which is a Title V system to replace 2 cesspools. Variances requested because of limited space on the lot. There are no other possibilities of locations for the leaching field. Stephanie Staszak, owner of abutting property at 18 John Wesley, asks why it can't be moved closer to their house? Mr. Silva explains that this leaching field is 10' from the Locus' foundation, and 12' from Ms. Staszak's foundation. It is 5' from each porch post. Mr. White explains that the goal is to replace cesspools whenever possible. Mr. Zinno asks that they put a liner on the leaching field on both sides to protect the homes that are close. Mr. Silva agrees. Ms. Staszak asks about the access to the home, and if they will be destroying the park with their equipment. Mr. Silva and members of the board mention that this area in front of the home is a public way, and that this isn't relevant to this variance request.

Mr. Zinno makes a motion to approve the variances request, with the condition of a liner on the leaching field. Mr. Butterick seconds. Approved 3-0.

- **Brian Packish – 14 Kennebec Ave., Map 9, Parcel 29**

- FOG Regulation Variance Request:

- 1) To allow for the installation of grease chillers in lieu of a grease trap

Mr. Albiston explains that the site, with a utility pole, does not allow for the in ground grease trap.

Presented by Reid Silva of Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering. Once excavation began, it was realized that the utility pole cannot come down, and there will be nothing to hold it up if the tank needs to be installed.

Mr. Zinno asks for clarification, if this chiller system has the capacity to be as effective as the 1500 gallon tank originally proposed. Mr. Silva explains that if maintained properly, it could be argued the internal chiller is more effective.

Mr. Zinno asks if there are any backups in the event that the grease trap fails. Mr. Albiston states that with the internal grease traps, if they fail, the grease will back up into the restaurant, which restaurant owners are aware of.

Mr. Butterick makes a motion to approve the variance request. Mr. Zinno seconds. Approved 3-0.

DISCUSSION

- Request for letter of support for TRI Resource Grant
 - Mr. Albiston explains that this is a simple request for a support letter for TRI Grant funding. TRI grants provide funding and loans to income verified households to help with repairs such as roofing, windows, insulation, etc.
 - Mr. Zinno makes a motion to request Mr. Albiston draft a letter of support. Mr. Butterick seconds. Approved 3-0.
- Discussion and possible vote to amend the Board of Health Regulation Section 19.0 – Verification of Bedroom Count for New Construction
 - Mr. Zinno states that this was a topic of conversation a while ago, and they had discussed changing the required door opening back to the 6' opening, to be consistent with other towns.
 - Mr. Albiston states that it a lot easier to put French doors on a 6' opening. He reminds them he is not making this decision and he does not have a vote.
 - Mr. White and Mr. Butterick support keeping the 9' opening criteria.
 - Mr. Albiston will run the regulation by Town Council before asking the board to vote. He will revise and bring to the next meeting for a vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 10, 2023
 - Mr. Butterick makes a motion to approve. Mr. Zinno seconds. Approved 3-0.
- March 1, 2022 – Vote to approve executive session minutes for public release.
 - Mr. Zinno makes a motion to approve the release. Mr. Butterick seconds. Approved 3-0 to release.

AGENT UPDATES

Mr. Butterick notes the COVID surge right now, and states that we have a medium risk here. Mr. Zinno asks if we have an update on the Lyme vaccine that is being studied here on the island. Mr. Butterick gives an update on Care Access, who is here on MV doing this trial on behalf of Pfizer. This will go on here for about 2 years. Mr. White says he will drop off an article from the Patriot Ledger to the Town Hall office and asked to have copies made for the board members. Article addresses towns throughout the state that are in legal battles in regards to PFAS in the drinking water.

Mr. Butterick makes a motion to adjourn at 10:50. Mr. Zinno seconds. Adjourned 3-0.