



Town of Oak Bluffs
Board of Health
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William White
Chairman

James Butterick
Thomas Zinno
Board Members

Meegan Lancaster
Health Agent

**BOARD OF HEALTH
February 9, 2021 – MINUTES**

Members Present: William White, James Butterick, Thomas Zinno

Others Present: Meegan Lancaster, Garrett Albiston, Lorna Welch, Patrick Hickey, Daryl Coppola, Doug Reece

Chairman White called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

APPOINTMENTS:

- None

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- Comprehensive Wastewater Management Program (CWMP) presentation review

Mr. Zinno stated that he thought it was a good presentation and thinks the focus needs to be more to the point of reducing nitrogen and not just talking about development. Mr. Butterick agreed that the presentation was very good and asked if the CWMP had done presentations in the past for the BOH which he did not remember happening. Ms. Lancaster recalled the CWMP asking about getting data from our files which are paper based and would be very time consuming to collect. Ms. Lancaster stated one thing about the presentation that struck her was them talking about undeveloped parcels and parcels are not necessarily indicative of what can be developed due to underlying lots that could actually mean more houses being built. Mr. Butterick stated that it makes sense that we should be working with Vineyard Haven on this as we share the pond.

There was further discussion regarding the Edgartown regulations for Sengekontacket involving I/A systems.

- Lagoon Ridge Subdivision – discussion of revised planning board application

Ms. Lancaster stated that the septic system construction application has expired so they will have to come back to the BOH to reapply. The Amphidrome system and the Reactor system made it into the final decisions. Mr. Coppola stated that he was new to the Lagoon Ridge project but was there to help get things underway. Mr. Zinno asked how these systems have been performing on the Cape. Mr. Coppola shared performance data on The Villages in Mashpee where these systems are installed with a monitoring function. They can make adjustments to the operation of the system as needed.

Ms. Lancaster shared part of the document with all the requests for the amendments which is basically adding a unit and changing the way that the clusters are going to get released. She stated that she didn't see anything concrete in the decision about how funding of the operation and maintenance of the shared system for this development is going to be handled.

Mr. Zinno stated that the first cluster of houses when you enter from Barnes Road with all share the Amphidrome system then the next cluster of houses in the back will all have individual septic systems. Mr. Reece stated that he thought the houses in the back were going to be required to have I/A systems. Mr. Reece asked if he could strongly encourage the Board to look at the watersheds and not just the Lagoon but all the watersheds and start requiring these nitrogen removing systems.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- December 18, 2020 - Approved

AGENTS UPDATE:

- Covid Management

Ms. Lancaster stated that we have an ongoing issue of mask usage in Town Hall and has brought her concerns to Mr. Whritenour and Ms. Brough. There will be a presentation for town employees on Thursday to reiterate the existing policies and clarify the procedure for an employee complaint. Hopefully the issues will be rectified.

Vaccinations are moving along at the hospital. There is a federal program that is coming down to take care of Island Elderly Housing vaccinations. There was a Health and Safety Committee meeting where they spoke about the validity of the random testing program. They added the special needs teachers to the random testing pool due to their exposure to students who cannot consistently wear masks.

Our Covid cases are down and vaccines are happening but we cannot let our guard down with the variants out there.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter re: Porta Johns on Sylvia "State" Beach

Ms. Lancaster stated that they letter regarded concerns over people urinating and defecating in the ocean and was a request for porta potties for the beach area. She explained that the letter was addressed to the BOH and wanted to make them aware but the County runs the beach and porta potties would need to be put in some sort of structure which is not easy to get DEP permitting in the coastal area because they could be knocked over or blown over. Ms. Lancaster stated that she would reach out to the sender and direct them to the County.

Mr. Zinno made a motion to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lorna Welch, Administrative Assistant