

Becket Board of Health Meeting
Wednesday, February 3, 2016
Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket Ma.01223

Board Members present: Gale LaBelle, Laurel Burgwardt .

Board Members absent: None

Public Present: Allison Hope, Jim Brown, (Chimney Corners), Ed Gibson, Beth VanNess, Robb Grace, Julia Grace.

Meeting is opened at 10:00 am.

Ms. LaBelle opens the meeting at 10:00 stating the date and time. Ms. LaBelle advises that there are agendas on the table for anyone who wants them.

Ms. LaBelle advises that this meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws regarding Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection as well as the bylaws of Town of Becket. All decisions require approval of a majority of the quorum of the Board of Health members present. Motions ending in a tie will not be acted upon until such a time as a majority can be achieved. In usual cases the Rule of Necessity may be invoked to reach a decision.

Ms. LaBelle goes on to introduce the board members present. Ms. LaBelle explains the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A subsection 20, and asks if anyone in the audience is going to make an audio or video recording of this meeting, Ms. Heather Hunt states she is recording the meeting.

Lastly, Ms. LaBelle advises the public present that it is the intention of the board to proceed with the posted agenda in the order in which the items are listed, and again reminds all present that agendas are available for anyone who wants one. Ms. LaBelle advises that everyone has the right to attend this meeting and observe the board as it deliberates but the public does not have the right to speak out or participate as they see fit.

Approval of previous meeting minutes- Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to move the meeting review until the end of the meeting.

Tri-town Health Services- Ms. LaBelle introduces Ms. Allison Pope from Tri-town Services, to the Board members present. Ms. Pope explains that numerous towns have taken a recent interest in raising the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age. She advises that some Berkshire County Towns (such as Lee, Lenox and Stockbridge) have already passed laws raising the legal age to purchase cigarettes to 21. She further explains that so far it has been effective in preventing nicotine dependency. Ms. Pope goes on to speak about second hand smoke and the effects it has on children as well as the elderly.

Lastly, Ms. Pope reviews the programs that they currently offer, to include both individual as well as group therapy.

YMCA Becket Chimney Corners- Jim Brown from Becket Chimney Corners briefly speaks to the Board of Health members, explaining that they are in the process of working to identify a location/shelter for an emergency or crisis. Mr. Brown advises that they are in the Planning and Touring process. He explains that in the case of an emergency, the Camp could provide plenty of space, heat, hot water, food and even shelter for animals. Ms. LaBelle agrees that the camp sounds like it would be very well-equipped as well as centrally located.

Plans to be reviewed by the Board: 870 George Carter Road- passes, 249 Brooker Hill Rd-passes, 416 Silver Leaf-passes, 303 Old Pond Road-passes, 10 Mallard Drive-passes, 2823 Main Street-passes, 117 Friar Tuck Drive-fails.

New plans submitted: 1352 Main Street (new plan needed), 132 Mystic Isle Way- tight tank, “seasonal only” use, needs further updating.

Public Input-None

Old Business- Ms. LaBelle advises that Mr. Lerner has resigned from his position on the Board of Health. Ms. LaBelle further states that there are currently two individuals that she is aware of that would consider filling the vacated position between now and the election in May.

Correspondence- Read and Reviewed.

Any other Business to come before the Board- None.

Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Burgwardt seconds the motion; Meeting is adjourned at 11:23 AM.

Budget- Read and Reviewed.

Schedule next meeting for March 2, 2016 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Hunt

Gale LaBelle

Date

Laurel Burgwardt

Date

Howard Lerner

Date