

HAMILTON BOARD OF HEALTH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2010

Members Present: Lindle Willnow, Karen Zagorski, Susan Wilfahrt, Health Agent Leslie Whelan and Administrative Assistant Nancy Stevens.

Meeting Opened: 7:34 p.m. at Hamilton Town Hall

Roberta (Bobbi) Cody – Health Inspector for Camps, Pools, Housing and Food

Bobbi Cody met with Board and agreed to take over responsibilities as restaurant inspector starting next week and will inspect establishments twice a year. She currently inspects camps, pools and housing for Board of Health. Cody provided a fiscal year calendar and expects to work 157 hours a year fulfilling all of her responsibilities for Hamilton's Board of Health.

Discussion was on school inspections and crisis management plan (i.e., when there is a power failure).

Appoint Jane Wetson (Town Clerk) and Andrea Carlson (Admin. Assist.) as "Burial Agents" to issue burial permits in accordance with MGL – Chapter 114, Section 25. Discuss possible fees.

Town Counsel Donna Brewer has reviewed the statute associated with appointing the Town clerk and the administrative assistant in the clerk's office as burial agents. These would be career appointments.

Discussion on charging a burial permit fee of \$10 to \$20 for the record keeping of certificates, as many as 30 to 40 Town residents are buried each year. The proposed fee is based on what Taunton and Attleboro charge for burial permits. The fees will likely go into the Town's general fund.

Lindle Willnow moved that the Board of Health appoint Town Clerk Jane Wetson as burial agent in the Town of Hamilton. Karen Zagorski seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Lindle Willnow moved that the Board of Health appoint Andrea Carlson, administrative assistant in the Town clerk's office, as burial agent in the Town of Hamilton. Susan Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Willnow moved that the Board of Health set the burial permit fee at \$20. Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Update – North East Mosquito Control District

Health Agent Leslie Whelan spoke to Walter Montgomery at North East Mosquito Control District. Mosquito population is down so it is unlikely that spraying would occur in Hamilton this year. The Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) strain found on South Shore is different than that found on North Shore. EEE monitored in southern New Hampshire is a concern for North Shore. Testing is done along New Hampshire border. No occurrence of EEE has been seen there so far this year.

West Nile virus was localized in North Andover but is not a problem. It is typically an urban coastal problem found in Revere, Saugus and Winthrop.

Whelan said all basins in Hamilton have been treated with larvacide. There are two trapping stations in Town with eight traps per station. Mosquitoes are collected twice a week and brought to Department of Public Health to determine type and identify whether or not they are carrying diseases.

Hamilton has not had any issues this year. In the past when problems have occurred it was in September or October.

Discussion – 249 Bridge Street resident complaint regarding neighbor at 251 feeding wildlife. (Environmental Police and By-Law)

A resident was concerned about a neighbor feeding wildlife. Willnow suggested Whelan speak to the animal control officer and give a courtesy call to the Environmental Police. If the Board of Health receives another call on the matter then a warning would be given to the resident feeding wildlife.

Discussion – Asbury Grove cottages – some being winterized/septic system capacity?

Asbury Grove is under a groundwater protection permit from the Department of Environmental Protection. All cottages have individual septic systems that were evaluated and passed or failed. There are 61 year-round and 86 seasonal cottages.

The Town, state and Asbury Grove Camp Meeting Corporation, has signed a memorandum of understanding. Hamilton's Board of Health handles anything related to septic systems in the Grove.

The Grove recently renovated its tabernacle and was placed on the national register of historic places. This designation makes the Grove eligible for grants that could be used to upgrade cottages.

After tabernacle project was done, Bruce Taylor, business manager for Asbury Grove Camp Meeting Corporation, brought in the Hamilton Group, a Boston developer representing Victorian Gardens LLC, who is interested in tearing down at least 20 cottages in the back of the Grove. The developer would install foundations and build new, winterized cottages.

Willnow thought if a house was torn down it could be difficult to permit the septic system according to local upgrade. Discussion occurred on the number of bedrooms that would be allowed per cottage.

Apparently Grove residents have been discussing a transaction where two cottages were purchased by the Hamilton Group representing Victorian Gardens LLC versus going through the Corporation process where new cottage owners have to be referred by their church pastor and reviewed by the Corporation board for residency acceptance in the Grove.

There is concern that there hasn't been any contact with Town departments about the Hamilton Group's larger proposal and about the impact of effluent from 20 year-round versus seasonal use cottages on the area wells.

In the Grove, cottage owners lease the land from the Corporation where the buildings are located. Residents pay fees to the Grove. The Corporation pays taxes to the Town.

Review – Board of Health Minutes dated 7/20/10

Willnow asked that a correction be made on page 4. He moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Zagorski seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned:

Willnow moved at 9:01 p.m. to adjourn. Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous. The Board's next meeting is on Tuesday, September 21 at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

cc: Selectmen, Planning Board, Town Clerk, Conservation