

Chilmark Board of Health

Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

Chilmark Town Hall

5:00 pm

Present: Katie Carroll, Matt Poole, Jan Buhrman

Also Present: Mike Tomkins (VLS), Cemetery Commission, Candy Sweder, Joel Glickman (Chilmark Store)

Minutes, October 2, 2019

Sweder, 4 Fulling Mill Hill (19-39) Mike Tomkins presented a septic system upgrade application to replace a failed tank and pit. The proposed Presby system meets all separation requirements. However, the Board noted that the bedroom count conducted at the dwelling shows five bedrooms, counting the study. The Board **approved** the proposed plan, pending receipt of an updated plan which shows a system capable of supporting five bedrooms.

Petlan, 119 South Road (11-34) Mike Tomkins presented a septic system upgrade proposal for a failed system serving two dwellings on a condominium lot. The system does not require variances, but, as a shared system, it will need to conform to requirements specified in Title 5, 310 CMR15.290(2). The Board further asked Marina Lent to write a letter to the owners informing them that the failed system must be completed within 180 days.

Wilgram, 137 Quansoo Road (22-8) The Board **approved** a septic upgrade proposal presented by Mike Tomkins which does not require variances.

Public Hearing 5:30 Review of location of lands intended for the burial of human remains in Chilmark The Board welcomed the Cemetery Commissioners and **approved** Chilmark Assessor Parcel 24-138, as lands which may be used for burial, and signed a statement for town records to this effect.

Lucy Vincent Beach The Board discussed the vexing question of trash accumulation in the parking lot at Lucy Vincent Beach. The Board's position is that this beach should be clearly posted as a "carry-in, carry-out" beach, and reiterated its willingness to provide limited interim funding to remove beach debris left in the parking lot while a more satisfactory solution is found by the Beach Committee.

Chilmark Store the Board began a review of a report presented by Joel Glickman, owner/operator of the Chilmark Store, of septic disposal system function during the 2019 summer season. He noted that it had taken some time to determine the best plant cover for the leaching boxes, and presented a photo of the plantings now in the first of the beds. The Board felt very satisfied with the plantings, but noted that they have yet to be fully load-tested under peak operating conditions. Joel Glickman reported that observation pipes indicate that the beds are not saturated.

He also made a correction to previous description of work already accomplished, in that the perforated pipes in the second bed have also been newly replaced with new piping perforated to engineer specifications as of last spring. In sum, one box has gotten a new liner, both have gotten new sand, and both have gotten new leaching pipes. The Board determined that the liner that was not replaced in the spring can be left in place until there are indications of failure, and that similar plantings can be placed in the second box at this time, but that close observation of the system is imperative to catch any need for remediation.

The Board reviewed metered water use estimates and noted that accurately metering wastewater is almost impossible and does not need to continue. The Board suggested that a mid-season inspection of the composting toilet and greywater system by the Clivus company should be conducted next summer.

The Board decided to take up review of this system at a later time, to allow more thorough consideration of the detailed report provided. The Board cautioned that this should not be delayed into spring 2020, and suggested a January meeting date. In the meantime, they asked Marina Lent to review the report alongside Board requirements and requests for information, and to communicate findings to Joel Glickman, highlighting any information which still needs to be provided.

Island Wide Youth Collaborative (IWYC) The Board noted receipt of a quarterly report and invoice from the program and asked Marina Lent to follow up with the program to clarify the amount billed for first quarter contract operations.

Digitization Marina Lent reported that the Town Hall has begun the process of digitizing Health Department well and septic files. She noted that in future, all property files, from the assessor to the Planning Board, ZBA, Building Department, Site Review, and Health will be centrally available to all departments. The Board welcomed the expanded access, but noted that this is an enormous project, not to be undertaken lightly or without careful forethought.

Among questions raised by the Board: will documents be accessible to Board members outside of Town Hall, or do all information requests have to go through the Health Department? The Board also felt that the full contents of each file must be digitally available if the hard copy is going to be archived in a location less accessible to the Health Department, and noted that the Board's approval process cannot be conducted without a hard copy component, since BOH issuance of a copy of the approved plan and permit to the installer is required. The Board is furthermore not comfortable with reviewing plans digitally, and needs easy access to contents of the file during its review.

The Board asked whether other departments have begun this process, asked for a written plan for Town Hall digitization, and whether the BOS is conducting the process.


Marina Lent agreed on the magnitude of the work that will be required, and proposed a reorientation of staff time in 2020/2021 to accommodate this and the generation of up-to-date content for the Board of Health web page. She proposed cutting out all activities other than administrative duties for the Board, with the following exceptions:

- working with island Health Agents on shared service proposals
- managing a transition over the coming 4-6 months of non-administrative activities for the Medical Reserve Corps to other agents, town officials and/or volunteers, and
- participating in the infectious disease working group of the MV Hospital run by Infection Control Officer Martha Bishoff.


Marina Lent MHOA/Vacation Marina Lent will be at the upcoming MHOA annual meeting from Nov 6-8, and on vacation thereafter, returning to the office on 11/ 18.

Invoices: The following invoices were approved for payment:

- MVRD SEMASS \$1,010.94
- MVRD SEMASS/Transportation \$2,011.65
- MV Community Services IWYC \$50


Katherine L. Carroll, Chair
Chilmark Board of Health


Matthew Poole
Chilmark Board of Health


Janet L. Buhrman
Chilmark Board of Health

A recording of this meeting is on file at the Board of Health office and available for on-site review.