

CHILMARK BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes

October 7, 2020
Chilmark Town Hall,
4pm

Present: Katie Carroll, Matt Poole, Jan Buhrman,

Also Present: John Clarke, Liz Oliver, Kevin Oliver, Kent Healy, John O'Keefe, Kathryn, Margaret Maida

Steiner, 30 Cranberry Hill (20-24) The Board noted that this is a proposal which adds a guest house to the property, and that there is no plan showing that two septic systems in full compliance can be built on the site. The Board asked Marina to request the two-system plan for review at its next meeting.

5 Shepherd's Path (25-116) The Board **approved** the plan, which does not require variances.

Middleton, 5 North Abel's Hill (24-162) The Board reviewed a proposed well plan for a lot that is being subdivided. The proposed well location complies with BOH separation requirements and was **approved**. The Board asked Marina to have the engineer show the 30' property line separation on the plan.

Oliver, 508 North Road (27.1-52&53) Kent Healy came before the Board to discuss a proposed system upgrade that will require variances. The Board decided that the upgrade will require a public hearing, due to the restricted options at the property and sensitive location. The Board asked Marina Lent to assist the Olivers in producing a letter to all abutters within 300' of the property, and scheduled the hearing for Wednesday, November 4, at 5:30pm.

Wastewater Disposal: The Board noted that the Edgartown Wastewater Treatment facility, EWWT, can no longer accept more than 3% septage over its wastewater flow from Edgartown properties hooked up to the sewage system. This means that, starting in March 2020, only emergency pumpouts and tight tank wastewater can be disposed of in Edgartown. Two septage haulers have already begun making arrangements to haul septage off-island for disposal, and the Board expressed its hopes that others will do so as well.

School Testing Program: Matt Poole, who represents public health on the task force, reported on findings at today's School Testing Task Force meeting. He reported that there is a current moratorium on distribution of the Abbott rapid test machine which the school had planned to use. The task force is working hard to find a solution. He noted that the All-Island School Committee meets regularly on Thursday evenings at 5pm, and encouraged interested Board members to attend via the link on the School Superintendent's calendar.

Blue-Green Algae: The Board heard a report about a recent presentation from scientists at the University of New Hampshire regarding findings of blue-green, toxin-producing algae in ponds on Martha's Vineyard. The discussion educated participants on the nature of exposure, including the possibility of aerosolized toxin. It is to be hoped that the colder weather will lessen the risk for this year. The Board stressed the importance of being well prepared for the recurrence of this endemic environmental hazard, in particular, with signage.

Chilmark School Lunch Program: Marina Lent reported on her inspection of the Chilmark School lunch program. Lunches are packed hot into individual containers and transported via cambro to the school, where they are divided up by classroom, picked up by teachers, and eaten in the individual classrooms, thereby avoiding student congregation outside the lunch window.

She reported that time-temperature logs, demonstrating when the lunches were packed and the temperature at that time, would ensure the food safety of this model. She is awaiting a copy of the West Tisbury permit for the school kitchen where the lunches are prepared and packed.

Pathways/Tavern Marina Lent reported that she has been discussing possible options under state requirements for the operation of the Pathways program this fall. The Board noted that a plan would have to be presented to the Board for review, and welcomed the resilience of local businesses and programs in coming up with creative ways to adapt to the necessary COVID precautions.

Town de-briefing COVID 2020: The Board asked Marina Lent to prepare a letter to all town officials, boards and committees, inviting them to a de-briefing and planning review on town actions to respond to the pandemic, noting that it is more than likely that similar precautions will have to be in place for at least up to a year from now.

The de-briefing will take place at the second BOH meeting in November, which is Wednesday, November 18th, 2020.