



Town of Boxford
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

- March 6th, 2024

Present: Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Mark Mitsch, Kendell Longo, Jim Taggart

Absent: Heather Forand

Meeting called to order: 7:00 by Richard Fahrner

Announcements: None

619 Main St Variance - Rick Clarke: Motion by **A. Constan** to move the variance requested for 619 Main St to allow the Soil Absorption System to be placed not less than 105' from owners well where 150' is required. Second variance is for 310 CMR 15.211: will be placed no less than 12' from pool where 20' is required. The Variance is granted based on the system as designed is an improvement over the existing system and as designed the system is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property. The Variance is granted upon the condition that a barrier system is installed to the depth of the pool base. **Seconded by M. Mitsch.** Approved unanimously.

347 Main St Variance - Alek Chongris: Motion by **M. Mitsch** to move the variance requested for 347 Main St to allow the Soil Absorption System to be placed not less than 72' from owners well where 100' is required and to allow the use of a sieve analysis since the soils were too wet to perc. The Variance is granted based on the system as designed is an improvement over the existing system and as designed the system is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property. **Seconded by A. Constan.** Approved unanimously.

241 Georgetown Rd Variance - Gregg Saab: Motion by **M. Mitsch** to move the variance requested for 241 Georgetown Rd to allow the Soil Absorption System to be placed not less than 116' from wetland where 150' is required and 108' from owners well where 150' is required. The Variance is granted based on the system as designed is an improvement over the existing system and as designed the system is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property. **Seconded** by **J. Taggart** Approved unanimously.

Stiles Pond study proposal and Warrant Article: **D. Taylor** joined meeting and shared background since BOH has a new member. About a year ago he asked the board to start taking some action about Stiles Pond because they have been receiving complaints for about five years about the blue green algae. The board approached the Conservation Commission and created a joint committee. The Stiles Pond Advisory Committee was formed with 2 BOH members, 2 Cons Comm members and 3 residents who live on the pond. They have been working on a plan for about 10 months and the committee has figured out what the problem is. It is Cyanobacteria. The committee approached the Community Preservation Committee for some money and it was passed unanimously. It was moved that the SPAC request CPC to fund a two-part program for the rehabilitation for Stiles Pond. Part 1. The determination of the sources of nutrient run off and part 2. for a pilot study to investigate for a method to clear the pond of cyanobacteria. That is the goal of the warrant article.

Warrant Article Language: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for consultant fees and other expenses incidental and related thereto, as necessary, to begin restoration of Stiles Pond from continuing degradation from blue-green algae by (1) carrying out a study to assess and determine the types and sources of nutrient loading of Stiles Pond, and (2) carrying out a study directed at removing blue-green algae from the pond, and that to meet this appropriation, the sum of (\$TBD) be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund balance and the sum of (\$TBD) be transferred from the Stiles Pond Restoration Fund, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health. **Motion** by **M. Mitsch** to approve the proposed language of the Warrant Article to be proposed to the Select Board for the May Town Meeting. **Seconded** by **A. Constan**. Approved unanimously.

Annual Report Assignments:

Alex Constan: Trash

Richard Fahrner: ArboViruses

Jim Taggart: COVID

Mark Mitsch: Stiles Pond

Finalize abutters notification change: There's two different versions of this. One would be a

homeowner's notification and a larger project such as Toll Brothers. Single family would be 250ft and more than a single family will be more. **R. Fahrner** will look back at Toll Brother's project and review the wording.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the **February 7th 2024** meeting. **Motion** by **A. Constan** to accept minutes as amended, **seconded** by **M. Mitsch** Approved unanimously.

Bills: Bills signed in the total of \$187,066.42.

Director's Update: **K. Longo** was on a team's meeting with Bob Hazelwood. It was Mass Department of Agricultural outreach call and there's a 2nd chicken flock that was destroyed because they were infected with the avian flu. If the public finds a dead wild bird on their property of trails, they should prohibit their animals from touching it and reach out to Animal Control so the bird can be tested. VNA is not renewing their contract. They are no longer doing wellness anymore. **K. Longo** will meet with the health nurse and see if they can have a plan going forward. **J. Taggart** asked if VNA also does the vaccinations and **K. Longo** stated that this year, vaccination clinics were through Conley's Drug Store for no charge.

Any new business arising in the past 48 hours: NONE

Adjourn : 8:37PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Yoonjin Lee

