

Town of South Hadley

Board of Health

Board of Health, Members
Walter R. Wolf, DPM, Chair
Michael A. Rosner, MD, Vice Chair
Suzanne M. Cordes, Clerk



Board of Health, Staff
Sharon D. Hart, Dir. of Public Health
Jennifer J. Jernigan, Admin. Assistant
Margaret E. Bernard, RN
Community Health Nurse

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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES June 1, 2016

As Approved August 3, 2016

Present: Dr. Wolf, Chair; Dr. Rosner, Vice Chair, Suzanne Cordes, Clerk; Sharon Hart, Health Director, Jennifer Jernigan, Administrative Assistant; Michael Sullivan, Town Administrator; Steve Longpre, Citizen; Bruce C. Forcier, Selectboard; Andy Rogers, Recreation Director; Linda Young, Citizen.

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m. by Dr. Wolf.

1. *Acceptance of Minutes:*

Dr. Wolf motioned to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Dr. Rosner seconded. All were in favor.

2. *Director's Report:*

- Director Hart asked the Board to review the Director's Report Handout and ask any questions that they may have.
- Dr. Wolf mentioned the Ham Radio license that Director Hart obtained.
- The E-Waste Recycling Fundraiser was discussed and how the Public Health Dept. must be notified of any event like this.
- The police surveillance system was also discussed and how it is being funded by the EMD Grant.
- The Zika Virus was discussed. Dr. Wolf stated that we need to look at mosquito control issues now. Dr. Wolf mentioned that Northampton is doing something with this topic. There is no mosquito control or surveillance in the Western part of our state, per Director Hart. There are mosquito control programs in the Eastern part of the state and we looked into getting a district here, Director Hart stated. We may have a concern down the road with climate change and transmittal issues. There are several directors, including Director Hart, that have met with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission on it but the price is very high per town. Dr. Wolf stated that in the future we may have to get involved and the Director agreed.
- Suzanne Cordes asked about the dangerous dog hearing that was held and Director Hart covered the highlights of the case involving two Saint Bernards. Our animal control officer, Shawn O'Brien, made his recommendations to the Selectboard and the hearing went well.
- Complaints received were discussed.

3. 4:45 p.m. Public Hearing – Dumpster Regulations

Doctor Wolf opened up the public hearing on setting Dumpster Regulations. Dr. Wolf asked if anyone in the audience was present to comment on the regulations. There wasn't anyone. Director Hart stated that she has re-worked the regulations on this topic that were tabled in the past and will be working with Town Administrator Mike Sullivan on the fees. Some of the issues that we face is dumpsters sitting on lawns for months, Director Hart stated, asbestos products being placed in dumpsters, as well as construction starting without building permits and this regulation should help with those issues.

Dr. Rosner motioned to accept the dumpster regulations as submitted. Dr. Wolf seconded. All were in favor. Dr. Wolf mentioned that the effective date is September 1, 2016. Director Hart stated that this was correct as she would like to do some education. The Health Department also oversees all refuse haulers and education is needed.

4. New Business:

(a) 49 Bardwell St. Apt. 1:

Director Hart discussed how an extension was requested for some housing repairs but that the concerns on the extension are now fixed. We had asked for windows to have locks on them. They requested an extension of 60 days to install new windows but then instead, fixed the locks. We had concerns on an electric heater near the shower and it needed work, but it was then fixed also. So the extension is not needed. The Building Commissioner is involved in working on the back stairway issue that they are also requesting an extension on.

(b) Health Agent Position – Jennifer Jernigan

Director Hart discussed that after our last Board of Health meeting, Human Resources wanted clarification on if Jennifer is to be an agent of the Board of Health or actually have a position change to a Health Agent in the Board of Health. Dr. Wolf asked the Town Administrator Mike Sullivan, who was in attendance, on how it works to get a position change or promotion for Jennifer so that she may be more useful and it be more fulfilling. Mike stated that in order to change any job description of a Union member that it would have to be negotiated with the Union. "So it is really beyond our Board's capacity?" asked Dr. Wolf. Mike Sullivan agreed. Dr. Wolf then asked how to move this along in an efficient fashion. Mike stated that they could send to his office what the recommended changes are and that he has actually budgeted for an amount to change that. Dr. Wolf then asked Jennifer and Sharon to write up a proposal and submit it the Board first, for review. The Board will then give their feedback and if everything is then in order, then they will forward it to Mr. Sullivan's office.

(c) Motion to Ratify 1 Graves St:

Director Hart discussed how Apartment 3 was condemned at this address. Everything is now fixed. So she just needs a vote to ratify the order. Dr. Wolf motioned to ratify the order, Suzanne Cordes seconded. All were in favor.

Dr. Wolf asked all in attendance to take a few minutes to review some new artificial turf information that was just received and to sign in.

5. 5:00 p.m. Public Hearing – Artificial Turf

Doctor Wolf opened up the public hearing at 5 p.m. and called up Andy Rogers, Director of Recreation to speak. Andy spoke about his research on artificial turf.

Andy mentioned that he and Tad, the athletic director of the High School had been contacting other towns with artificial turf fields to learn about their policies and procedures. Springfield Public Schools, West Springfield, Holyoke, Chicopee Comp, Chicopee High, etc. have them as well as most colleges. These schools had typical field use guidelines: no sharp objects, no metal cleats, no glass, no sunflower seeds, gum etc. Andy then went to Mass DPH and various websites, did some mailings to communities with artificial turf fields, and then came up with signage that he had included in the packet at this meeting that he will post. Key things are washing your hands and showering after playing on the field and before eating. Take your shoes off before entering your house and turn your clothes inside out so you don't track it all over the house. The crumb rubber sticks to the body. Get treatment for abrasions like you normally would. Be aware of heat related signs and dehydration and take all necessary precautions because the field does run hotter than a normal one. Andy gave the heat procedures in the packet. Andy discussed the maintenance manual that was given by the company installing the field and the maintenance plan. He also discussed the benefits of the artificial turf in regards to maintenance. Andy also added that we could find further information on the Recreation Department's website.

Dr. Wolf commented on a few things that he would like to see:

- Lock the field in the winter time to protect the turf and have the police check it.
- Review heat level guidelines and set some of our own guidelines.
- Look into research restricting pregnant women using artificial turf fields due to potential health concerns and age limits being placed on field use
- Issue with having someone water down the field two hours before a game – is this really going to be done? How ensure this? Will coaches really do this two hours before the game? Or the Parks/Rec Department?
- Temperature monitoring at the field. We need some kind of system so all there can see and read it. It should be at the correct height (5 feet?). Behind the goal, perhaps.

Dr. Wolf opened the hearing up to public comment at 5:17 p.m.

Linda Young had questions about how the players get their water to drink. The answer was given by Andy Rogers.

Suzanne Cordes asked what prevents people bringing their dogs on the artificial turf. It was discussed that guidelines will be on the signs around the field and also coaches and athletes will monitor. Andy would also like to add to the signs no pregnant women or children under 8, per Dr. Wolf's request and also to consult the Recreation Department website for more information.

Who will do the daily maintenance and cleaning of the turf was also discussed and what will be done. Dr. Wolf would like clarification from the DPW that only non-toxic cleaners and non-toxic weed, algae and moss killers will be used. This should be in writing.

Suzanne Cordes asked Andy if the parents are aware of the three government agencies looking into artificial turf issues. Andy stated that he can't speak to what the parents read or don't read, but the Recreation Commission has active athletes playing and the issues have been discussed in detail. Parents are on board as well as our coaches who have kids in sports. It hasn't been a big concern from his end. Very few parents have been concerned. Suzanne suggested that all parents get a copy of the Montgomery County Council information provided at today's meeting and sign a liability waiver.

Dr. Wolf reminded everyone that the hearing is to set policy for safety, not to debate if the artificial turf is going in or not.

A woman named Carol spoke. She wanted to know what happens when new guidelines come out. Who notifies the Board of Health? Dr. Wolf stated that news channels will inform us and Suzanne Cordes will keep abreast of the topic.

Dr. Wolf questioned waivers and asked that this topic be referred to the town lawyer.

Steve Longpre spoke. He wanted to know if there is a material safety data sheet to be posted about the fields. Have the materials been tested? Andy stated that no sheets were provided. Steve also asked if well water will be used to water down the field. If so, will it be tested periodically? Director Hart stated that monitoring would have to be budgeted for and that we need parameters to test the well water. We could ask wastewater treatment on the lab they use and how often and for what. Andy stated that it is not a drinking water well. Suzanne Cordes would like it tested for lead.

Linda Young asked how the rules will be put out to the students. She offered that we should speak to Nick Young about them, not just the athletes. Include the maintenance people, marching bands and all students, not just athletes. Also, the Athletic Director, per Dr. Wolf.

Dr. Wolf asked Andy to update the field use guidelines and give them to Sharon, for distribution to the Board for review. He definitely wants to see temperature guidelines and placement guidelines for the thermometers. We need to look into water testing guidelines. Mid-to-late August, perhaps twice a year. Get a baseline soon, per Andy.

Dr. Wolf closed the public hearing on artificial turf at 5:45 p.m.

Dr. Rosner stated that we should ask the Town Attorney for advice on the signage and liability question because other towns' kids will be using the field. Dr. Wolf agreed.

Dr. Wolf set next Board of Health meeting for August 3, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Dr. Wolf motioned to close the meeting at 5:53 p.m. Suzanne Cordes seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer J. Jernigan
Administrative Assistant

ATTACHMENT A

DOCUMENT	RECORD LOCATION
Lead in Drinking Water FAQ	BOH File
Consumer Confidence Report Certification Water District #2	BOH File
Music Parents Association – E Waste Fundraiser	BOH File
Montgomery County Council Rockville Maryland – Artificial Turf Fields	BOH File
2016 Arbovirus Surveilland and Response Plan	BOH File
11 Silver Street – Dangerous Dogs	BOH File
Monthly Water Quality Update – February 2016	BOH File
Monthly Water Quality Update – March 2016	BOH File
Sharon Hart – Vaccine Storage & Handling and VFC Compliance Training	BOH File
Manufactured Homes – Pubic Meeting Invitation	BOH File
41 West Summit – Housing Issue	BOH File
1 Graves Street – Condemnation Notice	BOH File
21 High Street, 3 rd Floor – Compliance Letter	BOH File
Request for Extension for Work on 49 Bardwell, Apt. 1	BOH File
281 Hadley Street – Title V	BOH File
Director’s Report	BOH File

