



BOARD OF HEALTH Meeting

Town of Nantucket
3 East Chestnut Street
Nantucket, Massachusetts 02554

www.nantucket-ma.gov

Commissioners: Stephen Visco (chair), Malcolm MacNab, MD, PHD (Vice chair), James Cooper, Helene Weld, RN, Rita Higgins
Staff: Roberto Santamaria, Artell Crowley, Kathy LaFavre, Anne Barrett, Hank Ross

~~ MINUTES ~~

Thursday, July 18, 2019

4 Fairgrounds Road, Community Room – 3:30 pm

Called to order at 3:35 p.m.

Staff in attendance: A. Crowley, Assistant Health Director; K. LaFavre, Health Inspector; T. Norton, Town Minutes Taker

Attending Members: Stephen Visco; Malcolm MacNab, MD, PHD; James Cooper; Helene Weld, RN; Rita Higgins, Select Board

Absent Members: None

Agenda adopted by unanimous consent

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS – ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS COMMISSIONERS AT THIS TIME

1. None

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

1. Chair: Mr. Cooper nominated Mr. Visco as chair. Ms. Weld seconded carried unanimously
2. Vice Chair: Mr. Cooper nominated Dr. MacNab as vice chair. Ms. Weld second. Carried unanimously

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Condemned a basement for substandard housing on 19 Hooper Farm Road; this is the second incident at the site. Only the basement was condemned.
2. Announced new hire, John Hedden, for the inspector position; he will start August 1. He is not a certified inspector, but we will get him fully certified, which will take a couple of years. He has inspecting experience as the Historic District Commission Administrator.
3. We received an advisory from Department of Public Health about Cyclospora, a food-borne illness found in produce that have a difficult surface to clean and sanitize.
4. We have not yet received the Estuary Report for Madaket.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. June 20, 2019: **Motion to Approve.** (made by: MacNab) (seconded by: Cooper) Carried unanimously

VI. CANNABIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

1. Representative: Malcomb MacNab was appointed at the last meeting.

VII. BOH BUSINESS

1. Numbers for Lyme and other communicable disease:

Crowley – Reviewed the report of cases to date.

Weld – The doctors just aren't reporting cases. Last year, the numbers were down, and we were more aggressive in our investigation; the intern was at the hospital and chased down the numbers. The year before the number of cases was 400. Reporting is labor intensive, so the reports aren't getting filed.

Crowley – Agrees the intern made a difference in tracking down the cases.

MacNab – He will get together with Mr. Santamaria about finding someone to track down the cases.

Higgins – Asked if there’s a way to set up to system for providing information in an easier way. Another source might be a data platform.

2. Well Regulations:

Crowley – Mr. Santamaria emailed a packet that has comprehensive numbers on pollutants; exceedences are naturally occurring. Reviewed the report. Nitrogen percentages are quite low. Nine out 10 samples for coliforms the test positive in the office come back negative from the lab; he’s interested to hear why coliforms are still present in the Harbor Watershed. Sodium is usually found in wells located within a ½ mile of the coast. We do not have an E. coli test specifically; it’s probably part of the testing in Barnstable. Since the regulations were implemented, the number of water samples sent for testing has increased. Should probably make a few more announcements at meetings to inform people; testing should occur every other year.

MacNab – Suggested public outreach education. Asked for a report back on what staff will do to increase public awareness.

Cooper – Suggested sending a notice to all the plumbing inspectors to inform their clients.

Higgins – We have a lot of education and outreach to do; it is an on-going concern.

VIII. BOH APPLICATIONS REVIEW

1. Variance request: Peterson, 321Polpis Road (25-08) from 52.02(A) wetland buffer & 51.02(C) reserve area

Sitting Visco, MacNab, Cooper, Weld, Higgins

Documentation Supporting documents and plans, staff recommendations.

Discussion (4:04) **Art Gasbarro**, Nantucket Engineering & Survey – This is a failed 3-bedroom system; proposing an I/A system. There is no alternative area; we are outside the 50-foot buffer per Title 5, but local regulations require 100 feet. This would be an overall net benefit.

Crowley – Staff recommends granting the variance. It is in hydraulic failure and this is the maximum feasible compliance due to proximity to the wetlands, about 53 feet.

Action **Motion to Grant the variance as requested.** (made by: MacNab) (seconded by: Cooper)

Vote Carried unanimously

IX. ADJOURN

Adjourned by unanimous consent at 4:08 p.m.

Submitted by:
Terry L. Norton