

Lincoln Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2016
Second Floor Conference Room, Town Offices

Members Present: Frederick Mansfield, M.D., Chairman
Steven Kanner, M.D.
Patricia Miller

Others Present: Stan Sosnicki, Asst. Public Health Director, and Elaine Carroll, Adm. Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be April 13, 2016. Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2015 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Steven Kanner. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Septic System Review:

102 Concord Road –The applicant is requesting one local upgrade approval as follows:

- (1) Local Upgrade Approval 310 CMR 15.405(h) to allow a one foot reduction to groundwater to eliminate the need for a pump. A five foot separation is required where a four foot separation is proposed.**

Charles Doherty said he is a resident of Lincoln and bought 102 Concord Road to either resell or for the use of his in-laws. The house has been vacant for six years and the system failed in 1996. He demolished the carport and is doing extensive interior renovations. There are two bedrooms in the house but he is putting in a three-bedroom system but the water table is a little high which is why he is asking for the one foot reduction to groundwater to avoid putting in a pump. Mr. Doherty felt that it would cost an additional \$15,000 to have to add a pump to the system even though he would be the installer. Stan said that Title 5 says that it should be five feet from groundwater. Stan also checked on the additional cost of installing a pump and said it would be more like \$4,000 to \$6,000 according to other installers. Dr. Mansfield said that the Board is reluctant to set a precedent of a reduction to groundwater. Dr. Kanner made a motion to deny the requested local upgrade approval to allow a one foot reduction to groundwater. The motion was seconded by Patricia Miller. The vote to deny was unanimous.

Informal Discussions:

Leaf Blower Study Group – Jamie Banks, Dan Pereira, Robin Wilkerson and Fannie Watkinson came before the members to discuss solutions to the noise and pollution caused by leaf blowers in the Lincoln Station area of Town. The group had supplied the members with a proposal, a list of companies and landscapers in the area, and videos showing the high-decibel noise exposure in this area along with examples of quieter electric equipment. They also supplied a log of complaints from residents. They have been making an effort to work with companies in the Lincoln Station area. The Ryan Estate hired a new landscaper and cut down on the schedule for leaf blowing. The Rural Land Foundation, owner of the Lincoln Mall, has voluntarily adopted restrictions on the use of leaf blowing at the Mall and enforced those restrictions on its landscapers. Dan said the Town does not use leaf blowers after mowing and there have been no complaints about streets not being cleaned. The Town does leaf blowing a week in the spring and fall and just before the start of school. The group would like a regulation that would ban the use of leaf blowers from May 16 to Sept. 30 (summer ban) and Dec. 1 to March 14 (winter ban), hours and days of use to Monday – Friday: 7AM to 5 PM; Saturday: 8AM to 5PM; and none on Sunday. Allowed periods of use would be two days per month during the period March 15 to May 15 (spring clean-up) and two days per month during the period Oct. 1 to Nov. 30 (fall clean-up). Dr. Mansfield said the Board of Health has no enforcement arm and would not be handing out tickets. Dr. Kanner said we need to find a workable solution that does not result in a battle. It was decided that the Board of Health will send out a notification to various property owners and landscapers saying that the Board is thinking of a regulation but would like to have a meeting in conjunction with the Leaf Blower Study Group to discuss alternatives. Hopefully three or four property owners will agree to help out to avoid a regulation.

Other Business:

Bill Paid – Eliot Community Human Services - \$1,250.00 for the 3rd quarter payment and East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project - \$2,575.00 for the 3rd quarter payment.

There being no further business, Steven Kanner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Patricia Miller. The vote to approve was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by Elaine M. Carroll