



## **Acton Board of Health**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**October 1, 2024**

**7:30 PM.**

**Hybrid Meeting Room 9 Acton Town Hall and via Zoom**

#### **Present:**

**Members Present:** Mark Conoby – Chairman and William McInnis

**Virtual Members Present:** Dr. William Taylor, Dr. Rekha Singh

**Staff Present:** Matthew Dow – Environmental Health Director, Penelope Funaiolo – Health and Family Services Director

**Others Present:** Alissa Nicol – Select Board Liaison, Stefanie Wood - HETI

**Others Present Virtually:** James Almonte and Wayne Belec – Land Design Collaborative, David Bamforth, Patrick Manning and Ben Denman – DC Beane and Associates

#### **1. Opening**

Chairman – Mark Conoby opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. A script was read that was provided by the Town and this meeting of the Board of Health was called to order.

#### **2. Regular Business**

##### **Environmental Health Director Update**

Mr. Dow informed the Board that the Health Division serviced 138 cars at the household hazardous waste day Tuesday September 24, 2024. The Health Division will be scheduling the 2025 dates in the next few weeks.

Mr. Dow also informed the Board that Weiyuan Sun has been promoted to Public Health Inspector. Wei has been with the Town for 14 years and has been an important part of the Health Division. We would like to congratulate Wei on her promotion and we look forward to her growing in to her new role.

Lastly, Mr. Dow informed the Board about an update from the Central Mass Mosquito Control Project. The Town of Acton is still at high risk for EEE and a low risk for West Nile Virus. CMMC are still trapping samples, and will notify the Division if any thing comes back positive. They sprayed all of the streets and parks September 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, it was a 2-day process. Please remember to protect yourself and wear long sleeve clothing and spray yourself with bug spray



before heading outdoors. Also, limit activities during dusk and dawn when mosquitos are most active.

### **Nursing Service Update**

Mr. Dow informed the Board that over the last month the Nursing Service treated 1 case of Influenza, 1 case of Pertussis, 31 cases of Novel Coronavirus and 1 case of Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis.

### **Health and Family Services Director Update**

Mrs. Funaiole updated the Board that the Public Health Nurse for the Town has resigned. She continued that she will be missed, but that Heather is still doing the work, she is still covering all of the basics and making sure disease surveillance is happening.

Mrs. Funaiole also informed the Board that our regional inspector Arleny has picked up an extra work day with the Town, so now we have Arleny on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She continued that Arleny has created a webinar training for food safety and safe food handling that the Division would like to roll out to establishments that are having challenges.

Mrs. Funaiole wanted the Board to know she is working through the soil evaluators class and recently passed the written exam. She has her field exam on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Lastly, Mrs. Funaiole wanted the Board to know the Department received a \$40,000 community compact grant to do a community needs assessment.

### **3. New / Special Business**

#### **Stefanie Wood – Senior Environmental Scientist, HETI: Insulet well testing requirements**

Stefanie Wood, representing HETI, briefed the Board on the ongoing well testing at the Insulet facility. Discussions focused on streamlining the testing requirements and clarifying confusion over certain test applications due to contradictory meeting minutes from 2019. It was agreed that Ms. Wood would provide a proposal of current versus future testing requirements for clarification. The Board requested detailed informational material to ensure alignment between the facility's testing practices and the board's expectations.

#### **James Almonte – Land Design Collaborative: Calculating sanitary wastewater flows of Gould's Plaza**

James Almonte and Wayne Belec from Land Design Collaborative presented on the wastewater treatment system design for Gould's Plaza. They discussed with the Board the DEP's recalculated flow, which now falls under local jurisdiction. There was also clarification sought regarding flow



calculations for specific businesses. Per discussions, it was agreed that Health Director would coordinate with DEP for further validation to ensure compliance with local and state regulations.

### **Patrick Manning – DC Bean and Associates: Hazardous material's control permit – 115 River Street**

Patrick Manning and David Bamforth provided updates on plans for the hazardous materials control at a battery storage facility on 115 River Street. They presented information on upcoming steps for sound studies, UL field evaluations, and secondary containment as per prior Board requests. The Board agreed that with proper measures and documentation, further progress could be monitored. These updates set the stage for ongoing oversight to ensure regulatory compliance.

### **Rapscallion Update**

The Board recognized non-compliance in seating counts at Rapscallion, where a count concluded with a number far exceeding the permitted count of 54 seats. The Board wished to hear from representatives of Rapscallion regarding their plan for compliance. Failing such voluntary compliance, a formal letter demanding a plan within 14 days was proposed to be issued.

### **Minutes – September 3, 2024**

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to accept the minutes of September 3, 2024. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Dr. Singh, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:35 P.M. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Board of Health meeting will be on Tuesday October 15, 2024

### **Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting;**

- Town of Acton script for boards and committees opening meeting
- Board of Health Agenda
- Letter to Board - Insulet Well Testing
- BOH letter – Gould's Plaza
- 115 River Street ESS Setback
- Condition 18 – Sound Study
- Condition 23 – UL Field Evaluation
- Condition 31 – Containment
- 115 River Street – Battery Specs.
- Board of Health Meeting Minutes from 9/3/24



Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew R. Dow  
Matthew Dow  
Environmental Health Director

Mark Conoby  
Mark Conoby, Chairman  
Acton Board of Health