



Town of Provincetown

Meeting of the

BOARD OF HEALTH

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Judge Welsh Hearing Room, Provincetown Town Hall,
260 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA

Board Members Present: Ken Janson, Dr. Janet Whelan, Mark Phillips and Elizabeth Williams

Board Members Absent: Laurie Delmolino, Paige Mansfield (Alternate) and Brian Carlson, Health and Environmental Affairs Manager

Other attendees: Morgan Clark, Public Health and Safety Officer

Call to Order: Mark Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Discussion:

There was no discussion by the Board.

Old Business:

No Old Business was brought forward.

New Business:

a. Discussion of Board of Health Regulations, Part IV, Article 3 – Swimming Pool Regulations – How to align with State Regulations (105 CMR 435.00)

Discussion:

Morgan Clark discussed how the Town Regulations could be amended or modified in order to be in accord with the State regulations (**105 CMR 435.00**) regarding

swimming pools and hot tubs. She explained that the Town Regulations were quite brief. She tried to take out of the local regulations any restatements or anything that was not in accord with the State Regulations. There is no need to duplicate the State Regulations. She kept and clarified the portions of the local regulations that addressed bacteria testing and closing and the rationale for that. The State leaves it up to the local authority to determine how often to require bacterial testing. Ms. Clark recommended that it remain as a monthly test. After consulting with the local building inspector about Section 3 which addresses fencing, she chose to eliminate that section as well since it already exists in other locations in the State building codes. Variances are also included as part of the State Regulations. If the board is comfortable with the changes the next step is to post for a public hearing regarding the changes.

Betty Williams commented that with these modifications, the regulations have been condensed considerably. Ken Janson asked if several copies of the State Regulations could be made available for the public hearing.

Motion: To accept the draft as prepared by Morgan Clark with the exception of Section 3 and to schedule a public hearing at the earliest opportunity.

Motion: Mark Phillips

Seconded: Ken Janson

Vote: 4 – 0 – 0

Any Other Business That Shall Properly Come Before the Board

Discussion:

Mr. Phillips brought up an email he received from Patrick Simon, Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The email referenced Christian's Law. There are changes regarding flotation devices for camps and recreational programs. It raises policy questions locally. The West End Racing Club and the Recreation Department may be affected. Morgan will look into it and write a letter to these two programs making them aware of the new law.

Approval of Minutes

March 21, 2013 Minutes

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of Thursday, March 21, 2013

Motion: Ken Janson

Seconded: Elizabeth Williams

Vote: 4 – 0 - 0

April 4, 2013 Minutes

Motion: *Move to approve the minutes of Thursday, April 4, 2013*

Motion: Ken Janson

Seconded: Janet Whelan

Vote: 4 – 0 - 0

Health Department Report

Inspections & Permitting

Inspections of seasonal restaurants and guesthouses are picking up. Rental inspections are consistent. There are quite a few new rental inspections.

Departmental Processes

The Health Department sent out informational packets to owners of semi-public pools and hot tubs. Each packet included a letter clarifying some of the common questions about the State Regulations specific to pools or hot tubs, a new application form for each (pool/hot tub), the State Regulations, and a poster on how to properly drain a pool or hot tub. The Health Department will also send out a letter to local pool companies to make them aware of the regulations and bylaws that prohibit them from draining into the street and storm drains.

Other

The Department met with members of the DPW, Sewer Department, Licensing Department, and Town Administration to discuss clarifying all the regulations regarding grease traps and how to decrease the amount of grease flowing into the sewer system. Many questions were brought up that the different departments are working on answering. It is more an issue of who enforces which regulations, not of creating any new ones.

Morgan attended a Cape wide workshop on hoarding, as it is a problem that the Health Department faces from time to time. While the number of resources available for people with hoarding disorder is still paltry, the Cape Cod Hoarding Task Force is working on identifying further resources. If the Board would like to nominate a member to work with the Health Department and other Town Departments on developing a local resource, discussions of that sort were started at the workshop and will hopefully continue over the next few months. Members of a peer supported self

help group were present to discuss the issue. The task force will try to get this type of group started on the Cape.

Elizabeth Williams volunteered to interface as a Board member with a support group when one is started.

Animal Control Officer

Nothing is changing with the way animal quarantine happens and the animal control officer's responsibilities. The Police contract is in negotiations right now. Until the negotiations are completed and approved, the process will remain as it is. The process itself is confusing and cumbersome. The police department knows to contact Morgan in the meantime.

Board Members' Statements

There were no statements made by the board members

Adjournment:

There being no further business or comments Mark Phillips adjourned the meeting at 4:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Leonard

Approved by _____ on _____, 2013