



## **Town of Mendon Board of Health Minutes for April 15, 2020**

Andy Fiske, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Alan Greenberg -Vice Chairman Tom Fichtner - BOH Member, Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Sr. Administrative Assistant to BOH, Police Chief Kurczy, Fire Chief Kessler, Emergency Manager Mark Bucchino, Resident Christine Bridges. There was another caller on the line that never identify themselves.

Location – Conference Call number 774-462-5991 Participates number 1233

**COVID-19** – The Board had been following the Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines with respect to not giving out numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases. Now, the MDPH has decided to release the numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases on a per town/city basis. The State will report town-by-town numbers every Wednesday after 4:00 p.m. Tom F. is pleased to hear that the State will be reporting numbers as he has felt they should have been reported all along since the Board had decided to provide confirmation to residents of COVID-19 within the Town. Tom believes that providing the number along with the confirmation was a natural question people would have. However, regardless of the numbers in any town/city, Tom stated that people should still practice social distancing. Alan had no problem following DPH recommendation and has no problem with the change.

Fire Chief Kessler talked with the Board. Public Health Nurse Ann Labonte has been notifying Public Safety of positive locations. Public Safety will continue to respect the privacy of those directly affected by COVID-19. Police Chief Kurczy spoke with the Board. They had to make some changes with their policies. There were a few hiccups at the beginning. The Board was glad things were running ok during these difficult and changing times. The Board thanked everyone for all they are doing and appreciate them take time to talk with them. Additionally, Mark Bucchino spoke to the PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) status. He said that right now the PPE status is very good. Mark attends regular MEMA calls to keep current.

Missy spoke to the issue of food consumption at George's Surf & Turf. Thru information she received from Lenny (BOH Health Agent) & another person, it had been confirmed that consuming food in the parking lot of the selling establishment is considered part of the

consumption element that is in the Governor's Emergency Order.

Additionally, Andy brought up the topic of vendors that set up to sell various products & wondered if under the current situation they should be allowed to operate. Chief Kessler brought up a vendor who is looking to sell PPE gear & wondered if they would need to follow standards related to medical supply operations such as M&M Supply in Mendon.

The discussion moved to non-COVID-19 items. Alan stated that he had spoken to Susan Tetreault (American Legion Commander) who oversees the American Legion building on Milford Street. The renovation project has been put on hold since Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical School is now closed due to COVID-19. Alan explained to her that there could be some illegal dumping going on and he would not like to see her organization pay the cost for it.

Alan then spoke to his conversation he had with Jane Bellevue regarding EEE. He is working with Jane & others to develop a EEE information packet to get out to the public. Alan also received some information from Max Carbone (BOH Animal Inspector). Alan is hoping Max will be able to call into their next meeting.

**138 Blackstone Street** – There appears to be some activity that indicates someone is residing in the camper at this location. The Board hasn't yet approved another Temporary Trailer Permit, as they were waiting on response from Mr. Ted Schofield. The Board asked Missy to talk with Lenny about looking into the situation. Missy noted to the Board that the current septic plan is set to expire in September 2020.

On the topic of campers, Andy brought up the use of campers going on at Cahill Farm. Andy recommended that a letter go out to inform the folks at Cahill Farm of the guidelines behind actively using campers/trailers for residency. The Town of Mendon has a Zoning By-Law that generally prohibits this use.

Next, Andy brought up the topic of scholarships. Missy confirmed that she did get in touch with the schools to provide them the BOH Scholarship documents. The BOH typically awards two \$500.00 scholarships each year, which are sponsored by E.L. Harvey & Sons.

Next, Andy brought up the signage topic & the desire by Dan Byer (Parks Commissioner) to post signs at the parks. All believe this is a good idea.

Alan made a motion to approve the minutes from April 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of 2020. Tom seconds the motions. All members agreed. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be April 22, 2020

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan seconds the motion. Both members agreed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.