

**Minutes**  
**Northfield Board of Health**  
**March 13, 2024**  
**6:01 PM**  
**Northfield Town Hall**  
**69 Main Street, Northfield, MA**  
**Board of Health Office 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Call to Order:** 6:01 pm

**Quorum Established:** David Balk, Kathie Bridges, Ali Wahlstrom, Karen Boudreau  
Also in attendance – Pam Veith, Board Secretary, John Buxton, Bernie Beaudreau

**Business:**

- Invoices review – Reviewed Transfer Station invoices
- Discussion of Northfield Conservation Commission's response, emailed to our Board of Health and Christian Arnold. This email states that the Northfield Conservation Commission has not received any formal requests from Clockwork regarding the campground. David states "I am a bit shocked that the applicant has not followed up with getting the conditions of our approval of the septic system at the campground met. It has been since our meeting on April 5, 2023 that they have been able to work on getting the information together to allow them to start the campground septic system. During this time period, the applicant's agent has been spoken to a number of times to clarify and assist meeting the conditions. I hope the applicant will devote more time and resources to meeting the conditions." Kathie states that during the 2019 perc test the applicant was supplied by her with a timeline showing the steps this project would need to follow. On March 14, 2023 David and Kathie will be meeting the Department of Environmental Protection agent along with a representative from Clockwork, Inc at the proposed site to discuss the proposed public well siting. The Board of Health unanimously agreed that it would wait for a septic plan with any proposed well sited on it before any additional steps may be taken towards installation of the previously approved septic system. The Board further agrees that a well approved by the Department of Environmental Protection for the campground will satisfy the condition of water supply that is part of the septic system permit. Motion made by Dave, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ali, unanimously approved to modify the condition of Public Water Supply to Public Water Supply or Public Water Supply Well as long as it meets all Department of Environmental Protection and DPH requirements. Karen raised the question of whether a well of this nature would impact neighboring wells. David pointed out that most surrounding properties utilize the municipal water supply.
- Review of recently received information on burials outside of existing cemeteries. Review of draft template application/permit for such a request. Additional discussion and review moved to next meeting.
- Review, correction and approval of new Urine Fertilizer Application/Permit
- Request for permission received by our inspection agent, Claudia, to approach businesses in town about leaving literature and a poster promoting lung cancer screening. Ali states that many restrictions apply to the "free" screening this program represents. David states that as long as the contact/promotional people are not Board of Health members he sees no problem with this program. Kathie made a motion to give permission, Karen 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed unanimously.
- Review of the Board's letter in support of waiving the Registered Sanitarian Department of Public Health requirement for Claudia based on her extensive experience. Board approved the letter, David signed it and it will be sent to Claudia to use for her waiver.
- Copier/Scanner/Printer has been ordered for the Board of Health office.
- Reviewed yearly request from the State for our Animal Inspector. Form to be completed by David; Dan Gray to continue as the town's Animal Inspector.
- Proposed solar array project materials were made available to members. It was agreed to table discussion of this project until next meeting to give members an opportunity to review the extensive material provided. Ali will recuse herself from discussions and votes on this project due to a conflict

of interest. Ali to check with the State Ethics Board to ascertain if there is a way she may be involved with everyone's consent. Board members wishing to review the solar array project material prior to next meeting can contact Pam and arrange a time to go into the office.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

- February 22, 2024 Minutes- approved by David and Kathie, Ruth is absent, Karen and Ali were not present for that meeting
- Revised Minutes from January 24, 2024 to remove under "Citizen Concerns" the names Jinx and Howard Hastings - Approved by David, Kathie, Ali and Karen

**Citizen's Concerns:**

- John Buxton attended at 7 pm. His hope was to express himself on the proposed solar array. Thanked Board and said he would attend when any discussion would be taking place.

**Permit Applications:**

- Camp Permit Application – Tabled to next meeting to review State's newest inspection requirements
- Food Permit – Centennial House – approved
- Food Permit – Wild Bramble Farm – approved
- Food Permit - Northfield Bible Camp - Approved

**Reports:**

- Septic pumping reports – reviewed
- Notification of spraying – Eversource – reviewed
- Pioneer Valley Regional High School – Septic inspection – reviewed
- Deleading of residential Home – Notification - reviewed

**Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair within 48 Hours:**

- David to speak with Department of Environmental Protection about water supply for a current business after a change of location/use. Ali asks that this be a topic on our next agenda.
- Request from reporter to speak with a Board of Health representative about the presence of PFOS in water. Was instructed to speak with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection as they would have the information.

Adjourn: 7:38 pm

*Kathie Buxton / Bridget 11 April '24*

*David Buxton 4-11-24*

*David Buxton 4/11/24*