

Administrator's Report
Board of Health Meeting of March 9, 2017
Report covers from 01/26/17 – 3/8/17
Items requiring Board vote are noted with an asterisk ()*

A. Inspection Report Reviews

None.

B. Soil Evaluations / Waiver Explorations – information only

(1) 86 Southern Avenue, French, Map 140, Lot 31

I witnessed soil testing as the first step in designing a septic system for proposed new construction.

C. Septic System Design Plan Review

(1) 70 Island Road, Ritchie, Map 101, Lot 10*

I have reviewed the proposed septic plan for this property, designed by John Morin of The Morin-Cameron Group, and dated January 26, 2009, with revision dates of February 18, 2009, February 27, 2009, April 18, 2016, and January 23, 2017. In my review of this plan, I have noted the following errors or technical deficiencies:

- There is no percolation test in the location of the primary leaching area.
- There are no buoyancy calculations for the septic tank.
- There is reference to an Infiltrator system; the details shown are for a conventional system.
- The plan identifies the incorrect map and lot number.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating the plan is disapproved for the above-mentioned reasons.

(2) 70 Island Road, Ritchie, Map 101, Lot 10*

I have reviewed the proposed septic plan for this property, designed by John Morin of The Morin-Cameron Group, and dated January 26, 2009, with revision dates of February 18, 2009, February 27, 2009, April 18, 2016, January 23, 2017, and February 3, 2017. In my review of this plan, I have noted that the designer has made all necessary corrections and clarifications, as requested.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating the septic plan designed by John Morin of the Morin-Cameron Group with a final revision date of February 3, 2017 is approved.

D. Septic System Installations/Abandonments (informational only)

(1) 38 Wood Drive, Johnson, Map 154, Lot 10

I signed the Certificate of Compliance for the septic system serving this property.

(2) 144 Conomo Point Road, Lane, Map 108, Lot 59

I signed the Certificate of Compliance for the tight tank serving this property.

E. Well Water Supply

None.

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F. Building Permit Requests

- (1) 4 Conomo Lane, Town of Essex, Map 108, Lot 23

I signed the demolition permit for this property after reviewing all necessary paperwork.

- (2) 8 Conomo Lane, Town of Essex, Map 108, Lot 24

I signed the demolition permit for this property after reviewing all necessary paperwork.

(G) Complaints

- (1) 186 Southern Avenue, Fortier, Map 151, Lot 6*

We have received a complaint that this property is being used as a dwelling unit without running water or proper toilet facilities. Review of the file indicates that a similar complaint was received in 2007 and the property owner refused to grant access for an inspection. A subsequent telephone conversation with the owner confirmed that he is living on the property without the benefit of toilet facilities. The owner has stated that he has lived at this property since 1975.

Recommendation: Discussion and decision on how to proceed.

- (2) Boathouse Grille, 234 John Wise Ave

We have had 2 complaints about people getting sick from fried clams at this restaurant. Phone interviews conducted by our public health nurse revealed that there was no official diagnosis, although both individuals reportedly were treated at hospitals. This information was reported to our food inspector, who will conduct a follow-up inspection to ensure the operation is still in compliance with the food code.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

(H) Meetings Attended (informational only)

- (1) Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (Beverly, 2/1)

This was a meeting to discuss the next steps in implementing this grant, including TIPS training for alcohol retailers and how to get community partners more involved.

- (2) PHEP (Peabody, 2/22)

This was a regularly scheduled Emergency Preparedness meeting our region, including discussing the deliverables for this budget period, planning our annual project (closed-pod emergency medication dispensing), and a quarterly budget review. In addition, all those in attendance received training in the use of nasal Narcan by a representative from the Healthy Streets Outreach Program.

- (3) CBRNE for Local Health Departments (Topsfield, 3/1)

This training was a deliverable requirement for the PHEP grant; it involved learning about an all-hazards approach to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive incidents. This included a review of specific hazards, where they might be found in the community, and what public health would be responsible for during an emergency response.

- (4) Recreational Marijuana Informational Session for Municipal Employees (Essex, 3/6)

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Dr. Driscoll and I attended the informational session for municipal employees on the new marijuana law and the regulatory impacts this law will have. The session included a presentation by a representative from Kopelman & Paige, as well as a Q&A on what municipal offices/boards might be affected.

(5) USDA Outreach Meeting (Topsfield, 3/7)

This meeting was organized by members of the USDA Inspectional Services, and included presentations on the retail deli inspection program as well as updates on the mandatory recordkeeping requirements for retail stores that grind raw beef products.

(I) Other Business

(1) Executive Order 562*

This order, signed by Governor Baker and in effect from March 31, 2015 through March 31, 2016, required a regulatory review of all Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulations (CMRs) to ensure that each CMR does not create an undue burden on taxpayers. While the CMRs that pertain to public health are considered essential to “public health, safety, environment, or welfare” (and are therefore exempt from the requirement that these regulations go through a review process before continuing enforcement), promulgation of any new or revised regulation must first be approved by the MA Secretary of Administration and Finance.

Several regulations that local Boards of Health enforce and/or work under the authority of have been submitted for review. Particularly, the Housing Code (105 CMR 410) has been through a lengthy review process that began several years ago and is currently awaiting approval to be released for public comment. Local Boards of Health are requesting a status update from Monica Bharel, MDPH Commissioner.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to Dr. Monica Bharel, MDPH Commissioner, requesting a status update on the review of the Housing Code revisions.

(2) Schooners Market

I conducted an inspection at this retail store at the request of the owner, who was concerned about his recent food inspection. We conducted a kitchen walk-through together and discussed what was necessary for full compliance including ensure store employees were using the proper sanitizer, that all necessary equipment and prep space was clean, and that unnecessary equipment was removed.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

(3) Energy North Group

I spoke with Bobbie Cody, Food Inspector, regarding the lack of a 3-bay sink in this facility. The business owner completed a new food establishment permit application when the property transferred in 2014. The approved application stated that a 3-bay sink would be installed when the property transfer was completed. This was not done despite numerous reminders to do so. At her most recent inspection, conducted on March 3, 2017, Ms. Cody informed the manager that plans for the installation of a new sink must be submitted to the Board of Health for approval and a plumbing permit obtained to have the new sink installed no later than April 1, 2017.

Recommendation: None – informational only

(4) 2017-2018 Flu Season

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After discussions with Lianne Cook, Public Health Nurse, we have tentatively agreed to hold 2 flu clinics next year: one at the Senior Center during the first week in October and one during the Clam Fest to be held at the newly renovated Town Hall. Additional clinics would/could be held if necessary, but both Ms. Cook and I agreed that with proper advertising and the improved location for the Clam Fest clinic, we should be able to reach the majority of the folks who would normally receive their flu shot from the Essex BoH.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

(5) 83 Wood Drive, Lester, Map 157, Lot 10

I conducted a follow-up inspection at this property to confirm the occupant is still making progress on the clutter concerns. During my inspection, I found that there is a 36" pathway throughout the dwelling and the exit/entrance is mostly clear. The occupant is still working on removing/reorganizing things, and is still contracted with Associated Home Care to assist in this process.

Recommendation: None – informational only. I will continue to monitor the progress at this property.