



**TOWN OF DIGHTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
Regular Meeting Minutes**

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2022 MAY 30 PM 4: 28

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May 12, 2022

Members Present

Barbara Catabia
Kevin Bernardo
Nicole Mello

Staff Present

Todd Pilling

Call to Order: Chairman Barbara Catabia called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. It was announced that the cable employees were sick, and the meeting is not being recorded.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Committee Business:

3a) Review / Discuss / Act: Recognize Diana Shannon

Diana was not in attendance. Kevin Bernardo wants a letter written to thank her for her service as a contact tracer.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to table the recognition.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3b) Review / Discuss / Act: Appoint Megan DaCosta as Tobacco Prevention Collaborative Inspector

Megan is replacing Marilyn Edge, who was replaced by Seth Baker temporarily.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the appointment of Megan DaCosta as Tobacco Inspector.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

Todd Pilling suggested inviting Megan to the July Board of Health meeting to meet her.

3c) Review / Discuss / Act: Household Hazardous Waste Day

Only one company provided an estimate for a collection day this year. ACO Enviro provided a date of August 27, 2022, and an estimate of \$9,461.75. A Board of Health member should attend the event. Kevin Bernardo pointed out that the estimate included items such as a 30 yard roll-off and a forklift.

1 Barbara Catabia

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to approve the quote of \$9,461.75 by ACO Enviro, and to have the Town Administrator review the contract.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3d) Waste Ban on Mattresses and Textiles

Agent Pilling explained that the pink bag program for textiles recycling is changing. Simple recycling will no longer provide daily curbside pickup, or pink bags. They want to go to a system where the homeowner puts a bag-any bag, not just pink ones- on the front stairs, and calls for a pickup.

There was discussion about the creation of the Solid Waste Committee.

Options for mattress disposal were discussed: collect and recycle, disassemble ourselves, or stop taking them. Would people dump mattresses on the side of the road? If disposal costs go up, we will need to go up with our fee. Kevin Bernardo is opposed to collecting the mattresses.

Mr. Leonard Hull, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, asked if the Board of Health has suggestions for the makeup of the solid waste committee? Tom Ferry, one Board of Health member, the Health Agent, one Financial Committee member, Tom Pires were suggested. Mr. Hull will put this on the May 25, 2022 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Agent Pilling will check with Kathy Mirza, former environmental analyst at Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, if there are locations which collect the mattresses.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to table this until the next meeting.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3e) Food Permit Waiver Request by Dighton Historical Society for the Strawberry Festival

Kevin Bernardo recused himself.

Agent Pilling explained that this is an annual event, they make and sell strawberry shortcake. The Board historically waives this fee.

It was moved by Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia stepped down to second and VOTED to waive the fee.

Roll Call (2) Ayes

Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3f) Food Permit Waiver Request by New England Dairy for the Massachusetts Agriculture Today event at the Bristol County Agricultural High School

Kevin Bernardo recused himself.

Agent Pilling explained that Bristol Aggie held a Community Open House Saturday, May 7. The New England Dairy had a milk truck with options for white, chocolate, and strawberry milk, all offered free. The application was received last week. Agent Pilling allowed them to submit the application without a fee, and the request would be discussed at this meeting.

It was moved by Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia stepped down to second and VOTED to waive the fee.

Roll Call (2) Ayes

Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3g) Changes to the Textile Recycling Program “Simple Recycling”

Agent Pilling explained that the pink bag program for textiles recycling is changing, as discussed earlier in the meeting. There will be no more curbside collection. The large collection bins are problematic. Does Dighton provide our own pink bags? Do we collect bags at the transfer station? Do other companies provide curbside pick-up? Could we go to a collection schedule of 1 day each month?

Selectmen Hull announced that we are on the Board of Selectmen agenda for May 25, 2022. The Board of Health presence is requested, and the Selectmen would like recommendations from the Board of Health for the composition of the Solid Waste Committee.

Agent Pilling will call Simple Recycling to explore other options. The Board preferred a once monthly collection, with a collection at the transfer station a second option.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to table the discussion to the next meeting.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3h) Review / Discuss / Act: Transfer Station Backup Attendant

The attendant we currently have, Jon Lawrence, can't work Tuesdays. There is currently no back up for Saturdays. The DPW currently does Tuesdays and provides backup for Saturdays. Saturdays will be at an overtime rate.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to advertise the Transfer Station backup position.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3i) Review / Discuss / Act: Assistant Health Agent Backup Job Description

Agent Pilling stated that the budget includes a line for this, but the job has never been posted. Should we post it or have another town cover the inspections? The job description would be similar to the Health Agent's. Would the regional grant we just got for the Public Health Nurse also cover this? Would the job be for back up for vacations for emergencies?

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to have Agent Pilling put a job description together for discussion at the next meeting.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

3j) Other Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance

None

4) Inspectors Reports

The Animal Inspector was not in attendance.

Nicole Mello stepped down as a Board member to report as the Public Health Nurse. There has been a gradual increase in Covid-19 cases. A new telehealth website www.mass.gov/covidtelehealth is now available for a video conference which can prescribe medication. The Regional grant we are participating in has not received funding yet. Towns participating include North Attleboro, Attleboro, Berkley, Taunton, and Dighton. Mrs. Mello wants to know what we need, so she can present it to the regional group. Do we need Health Agent help?

Mrs. Mello will be providing a "sun safety" informational session at Lincoln Village next month. The Firecracker Festival is scheduled for July 9, 2022. Nicole would like the Board of Health to have a table at the event with stuff to give out. She offered to sit at the table.

Mrs. Mello would like to start and manage a Facebook page for the Board of Health. Many committees in town have one. The Board of Health currently does not. The Board was amenable to the offer.

Mrs. Mello will be attending a conference to earn her Continuing Education Credits.

Agent Pilling reported that we recently had a housing complaint from a third floor apartment which was under construction without building permits.

There is a push to get the Board of Health involved with online permitting. Office staff has been reluctant, as consolidating the filing system is more of a priority. Selectmen Hull asked about using an intern from Bristol Community College. Agent Pilling informed the Board that historically, the Town has not wanted free interns. The Board of Health has used interns over the past few years, paid at minimum wage. This year, the intern budget was eliminated. Selectmen Hull stated that the current administration is supportive of free interns.

Agent Pilling, as Stormwater Agent, reported on the two solar projects under construction in town. Brook Street solar has to dig out their infiltration basin as it was improperly installed with sub-par materials. Williams St solar at Araujo's has started to install erosion controls.

Public Input

None

Correspondence

None

Approval of Minutes

There was some confusion, as not all the board members received all the minutes. There were also some suggested edits that had not been made.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded Nicole Mello and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to table the approval of minutes from the regular meetings of March 10, April 6, April 14, April 25, and May 4.

Roll Call (3)

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

Executive Session

Under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3)

- 7. To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements;

For the acceptance of executive session minutes.

Motion Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Nicole Mello and VOTED to enter executive session and not return to open session.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Nicole Mello, Barbara Catabia

Executive Session Entered at 7:30 P.M.

**Respectfully Submitted
Rosalind Grassie**

These minutes reflect a summary of procedure and discussion for this meeting.