



TOWN OF GROTON

Board of Health
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

BOARD OF HEALTH

Evan Thackaberry, Chair
Robert J. Fleischer, Member
Michelle Collette, Member

Date: Monday September 16, 2024
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Town Hall, 173 Main St Groton MA, 1st Floor Meeting Room
Members Present: Michelle Collette, Robert J. Fleischer, Evan Thackaberry
Members Not Present:
Others Present: Katie Berry, Kalene Gendron, Brian Stevenson, Fred Porter, Catherine Dignam, James Sabino, Alison Eydenberg, Cindy Silva, John Brooks, Peter Corbett, Bill Rand, Jennifer Rand, James Desrosiers, Claudia Desrosiers, Joan Hamlett, May Brackett

Evan Thackaberry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

0 Old Dunstable Rd Lot #1A, Brian Stevenson, SDS Variance Extension- Mr. Brian Stevenson was present to share that he has yet to build the home, and requested an extension for his Sewage Disposal System variance, which has an expiration date of September 27, 2024. Michelle Collette moved to grant the extension for a period of 2 years to September 27th, 2026, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Brookfield Commons Parcel 137-13, LandTech Consultants, Helena Koch, Local Chapter 315 SDS Variances, Title 5 Variance, and Title 5 Local Upgrade Approval Requests-Evan Thackaberry shared that the applicant was unavailable, an email was received requesting a continuance. Bob Fleischer moved to continue the discussion to October 7th, 2024, as requested by Mr. Matt Waterman of LandTech, Michelle Collette seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Main St – Vicinity of #240 Main St, Bill Rand, Noise Complaint – Bill Rand was present to discuss the noise complaint in the vicinity of 240 Main Street, coming from a rooftop cooling unit. Mr. Rand described a letter before the Board dated August 28, 2024, signed by 10 households in the area, who are supporting the frustration with the buzzing sound coming from 240 Main St. The property manager, Gus Widmayer, and tenant, Emerson Health, have made recent adjustments to attempt to remedy the concerns of the neighborhood, though Mr. Rand stated the adjustments have not been successful in providing relief from the noise complaint. Mr. Rand read allowed his recent letter, sharing his frustration with the lack of resolution, and requesting next steps from the Board of Health. A neighboring resident shared his frustration, and played the offending sound from his mobile device. Bob Fleischer asked if the Board could request an official reading be performed by the state, which Kalene Gendron shared could be completed. Mr. Rand referenced an email from Michelle Delemarre of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), reinforcing his grounds for complaint. The

Board discussed the logistics of capturing an ambient sound reading in the busy area, Michelle Collette shared that it would be unreasonable for the Groton Health Agent, Kalene Gendron, to do a sound reading at 2:00am, the Board did have an on-duty Groton Police Officer investigate the sound at that time of night, and agreed that now may be the time to request an official reading be done by MassDEP. The Board discussed the measures that have been taken to date, meetings with the various parties, and unofficial readings taken. Michelle Collette moved to engage MassDEP to investigate the noise complaint of 240 Main St, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. James DesRosiers, shared his frustration over the noise, stating that he is contemplating relocating, he offered his home for measurement, and asked for full compliance, suggesting that the property owner receive estimates for remedy. Michelle Collette made clear that the goal of the Board of Health is to be in full compliance with the law.

23 McCarthy Dr, Arabella Palma, Housing Violation Appeal- Arabella Palma, owner of 23 McCarthy Drive, was present via Zoom, and stated that she has completed many repairs as needed. Ms. Palma stated that she had lead abatement performed on September 14th, 2024, and that the tenants had been evicted prior to filing a complaint with the Board of Health, she felt was in retaliation. Ms. Palma provided updates on the list of violations and shared her concerns with the tenants. Evan Thackaberry stated that a reinspection will need to be completed, with Michelle Collette adding that this could be placed on the October 7th, 2024 meeting. Kalene Gendron clarified that this topic would be continued, not withdrawn. Bob Fleischer moved to continue this discussion to October 7th, 2024, Evan Thackaberry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Tobacco Control Alliance, Joan Hamlett, Chapter 322-Tobacco Regulation Review- Joan Hamlett of the Tobacco Control Alliance shared information on past versions of Groton Board of Health tobacco regulations, with updates being done in 2017 and 2023. The Board went over a checklist of policy decisions provided by Ms. Hamlett, discussing current and past regulations, as well as caps on licenses within local towns. Katie Berry shared that she and Joan Hamlett had recently discussed amending the local tobacco license application to reflect Dept of Revenue licensure. The Board provided response to the checklist in order for Joan Hamlett to bring a draft regulation to the next meeting and potentially schedule a public hearing for the October 21st meeting.

17 Town Line Rd, Wayne Legacy, Housing Code Compliance- Michelle Collette moved to allow Kalene Gendron to work with the tenant to gain access for the necessary housing code reinspection, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Michelle Collette added that the Board appreciates Kalene Gendron's efforts with this difficult situation, and her gratitude for the Groton Police's support. Michelle Collette moved to continue this discussion to the next meeting on October 7, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

Health Agents Report- Kalene Gendron shared that the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health flu clinic schedule has been posted on the Groton BOH website. Ms. Gendron also shared that she has provided comments to the Planning Board regarding a subdivision project for Gratuity Rd.

Sign permits/ invoices- (1) invoice for Nashoba Associated Boards of Health was signed by present members.

Minutes- Michelle Collette moved to accept the minutes of 19 August 2024, as submitted, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Next Meeting- The Board of Health will meet Monday October 7, 2024 at 6:30pm.

Michelle Collette moved to adjourn at 7:58pm, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes by Katie Berry, Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant.

APPROVED: 10/7/24
