

Minutes of the Board of Health meeting March 14, 2016

Present: Rusty Luce, member; Valerie Bird, Health Agent; Donna Gibson, member;
Cosmo Ferante, town resident.

Absent: Helen Symons, member

1. Cosmo Ferante came in about concerns he has about Valerie Bird's visit recently and questions to store owners at "Sutter's Meats" in Northampton. Mr. Ferante's animal products are sold there. Discussion about Ms. Bird's area of jurisdiction. It was learned that Ms. Bird was there only to buy her lunch.

2. Minutes of our February 25, 2016 meeting were accepted as corrected.

3. Discussion of resident on Hyde Hill Road who slaughters pigs there (T. Daley). He has been made aware of the need to upgrade his facilities to current food safety requirements.

4. Ms Bird reported that on a recent inspection by area tobacco compliance personnel. There were no violations of sales rules anywhere in town. Cumberland Farms store, however, does not have proper signage about tobacco sales. The Board decided the store will not be fined for this finding. She will stop by there today & let them know how to get signs.

5. Composting of organics at the Transfer Station was again discussed. Specifics learned by Board members include:

- Whately pays the 2 people who truck 2 barrels of organics every two weeks to Bill O'Bear's site in West Whately;
- Two people are needed to handle the heavy bulky containers;
- They are paid at their usual rate as T. S. attendants, \$14/hr;
- The disposing of the organics by town residents needs to be closely monitored as plastic bags, plastic utensils & other contaminants have frequently been found and are not accepted at Mr. O'Bear's site.
- Whately's transfer station is actually managed by a town solid waste committee, not the Health Board;
- How would wildlife (bears especially) be kept out of the collection area;
- How would Williamsburg residents benefit if the operation will cost additional money &/or staff to run.

It was decided to bring up the topic again when Helen Symons returns.

6. A very rusted 40-yd roll-off box at our T. S. used to recycle paper & cardboard

apparently belongs to HRMC. That board is willing to give it to the Town of Williamsburg if we are willing to do the needed repairs on it, costing \$2000-\$3000. Donna will see if we might be able to use any of the money in two grants available to do repairs (Small Scale Initiatives, \$500 & Recycling Dividends Program, \$2100.)

7. Next Board of Health meeting Monday, March 28, 2016 @ 2:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned 3:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

- Donna Gibson