



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
(978) 874-7409 • Fax (978) 874-7462
BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes for April 7, 2021
Board of Health Meeting, Room 205, 4:30 p.m.

In attendance: Board of Health members Dr. Michael Popik, Chairman; Mr. Ed Simoncini, Ms. Ann Loree, Health Agent, Elizabeth Penney, Administrative Assistant, Mr. Kenny Wong, Ms. Kimmy Wong, Westminster Café, Mr. Jeffrey Crowley, Wachusett Mountain, Mr. James Delisle, Select board member.

Dr. Popik called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Vouchers were signed for March mileage for Abby Conlin and Ann Loree. Vouchers were signed for MHOA memberships and MHOA spring seminar for Abby Conlin and Ann Loree. Voucher signed for Sanofi Pasteur flu vaccine 2020 order.

New Business:

Westminster Café - Ms. Loree provided overview of the complaint received regarding mask worn below nose and mouth. Assistant Health Agent Ms. Conlin followed up with a site visit. Ms. Conlin observed the wait staff in compliance with the mask order; however, Ms. Conlin observed the kitchen staff with masks down. Ms. Loree said she did a site visit later the same day and observed wait staff in compliance with mask order. Ms. Loree observed the kitchen staff with masks down.

Ms. Loree said the owners were given a verbal warning in November 2020 during an inspection where Ms. Loree observed the owner with mask down in the kitchen.

Mr. Wong explained that the only time he pulls down the mask in the kitchen is to eat. Mr. Wong said he does not prepare any food while he is taking a break to eat. Mrs. Wong explained that one staff member has an allergy problem. Ms. Wong will ask the staff member to obtain a note from his doctor. Ms. Loree commented that he should not be eating while preparing food in the kitchen.

Mr. James Delisle, resident and member of the Select board, addressed the Board regarding his observations as a customer at Westminster Café. Mr. Delisle said he has observed the wait staff wearing masks over the mouth and nose and performing cleaning procedures. Mr. Delisle noted the unprecedented times. Dr. Popik noted his appreciation for Mr. Delisle's comments.

Dr. Popik acknowledged significant challenges that businesses have dealt with; however, he stressed the importance of following safety protocol. Dr. Popik summarized the lack of understanding regarding the warning given in November. Dr. Popik said Mr. & Mrs. Wong must follow the Commonwealth of Massachusetts standards & guidelines. Ms. Loree said Mr. & Mrs. Wong must oversee staff and make sure staff is in compliance with mask order.

Wachusett Mountain Covid Complaint – Ms. Loree provided overview of complaint. A parent of a student informed Ms. Loree that the student was told to come to work in early-mid March although the student tested positive COVID-19. Ms. Loree said the information received did not include the supervisor's name.



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
(978) 874-7409 • Fax (978) 874-7462
BOARD OF HEALTH

Mr. Jeff Crowley addressed the Board. Mr. Crowley said Wachusett Mountain management follows the Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidelines. Mr. Crowley reviewed the employment policies. Mr. Crowley will continue to investigate the matter. Mr. Crowley will provide a letter to all supervisors reinforcing that employees who are COVID positive should not come to work.

Nomination of Animals –

Dr. Popik made motion to accept the nomination of Inspector of Animals to included Kristen Salerno, Cheryl Slack, and Alana Meserve. Motion seconded by Mr. Simoncini. Motion passed

Board Concerns –

Town Farm Road – Mr. Simoncini expressed concern with the response received from Town Counsel regarding the Board of Health request to hire a Hydrogeologist to perform a study of Town Farm Road. Mr. Simoncini would like response from Town Counsel regarding Board of Health in compliance with Mass General Law Chapter 111 Section 122 and 123. Mr. Simoncini provided history and summary of well water issues in other parts of the town.

Dr. Popik responded to Mr. Simoncini's concern that the Town of Westminster is putting steps in place with bringing town water to the effected Town Farm Road residents. The problem has been recognized, investigated and the town is working to resolve and come up with a solution.

Select board member Mr. Delisle noted that he refrained from the voting on funding of the hydrogeologist as he is a resident of the affected area.

Ms. Loree will contact the Town Administrator to request a written statement from Town Counsel that Board of Health is not in violation of Mass General Law Chapter 111 Section 122 and 123. Follow up with DPW regarding the progress and timeline.

Water Testing Notification - The Board of Health will draft a reminder notice to residents with wells to have their water tested annually. The discussion regarding contents of the notice and mailing process was tabled for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Simoncini inquired about the Lake Drive East septic inspection. Ms. Loree noted the inspection went well.

Dr. Popik requested Ms. Loree send the MHOA application again.

Agent Update –

Port-a-Pottie Permits - Letters were sent out to four septic haulers regarding the updated Port-a-Pottie process.



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
(978) 874-7409 • Fax (978) 874-7462
BOARD OF HEALTH

New Board of Health Hearing Agenda Policy— The agenda policy approved by the Board is being sent out a case by case basis.

Graduation Ceremony - Ms. Loree reviewed the school district Graduation ceremony and senior activities with the Ashburnham-Westminster Superintendent and Oakmont Principal.

COVID Update - Cases in the low teens, school pool testing is low.

Ms. Loree said the HR Director is working on securing an intern for the summer. The intern will be tasked with continuing work on the well project begun in 2018.

Dr. Popik made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Simoncini. Adjourn at 5:49 pm.

Dr. Michael Popik

Edward Simoncini

Attachment:

Letter to Westminster Café

Letter to Wachusett Mountain

Nomination of Inspector of Animals