

October 8, 2015
Sterling Board of Health Meeting
Butterick Municipal Building, Room 205
1 Park Street, Sterling, MA 01564

Meeting Minutes

6:30pm Allen Hoffman, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Gary Menin noted that he was recording the proceedings as an individual and that the notes would be available on the cloud for those who are interested.

Roll Call: Allen Hoffman (BOH Chair)
 Gary Menin (BOH Member)
 Donna Clark (BOH Member)
 David Favreau (BOH Agent)
 Kathleen Nickerson (Admin Assist)

Other Attendees:

David Greco, Doris Bennett, Kristopher Coughlin, Barry Lein, Maria Alvarez, Holly Shaw,
Ronald Rana, Steve Sears, Maureen Cranson, L.R. Favreau, Dawn Hartnett,
Clara Gorczynski, Arthur Coughlin Jr, Joe Palstiv, Brad Rodasco

Approval of Minutes – August 6, 2015, Gary Menin made a motion to accept the minutes as modified; Donna Clark seconded; discussion...none; all in favor.

Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2015, Gary Menin made a motion to accept the minutes as modified; Donna Clark seconded; discussion...none; all in favor.

6:45pm David Greco, Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative Coordinator...discussion on Massachusetts Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC), handout attached. After his presentation, the BOH asked what the group was looking for from the Sterling BOH. His response was "support." The Board asked him to put in writing exactly what the group was looking for from the Board. David said he would do that.

Public Session...no one came forward.

7:00pm Appointments and Agenda Items:

108 Heywood Road Variance Request...continued from 9/10/2015 Meeting: To reduce the minimum separation distance from high groundwater and the SAS as required in 310CMR 15.212(1) from 4 feet to 3 feet and as required in Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations IV(f). Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations IV (a) requires 1000 square feet and 12" of stone beneath for a bed, a Presby design is proposed without stone. Steve Sears, Ross Associates, represented the homeowner.

Mr. Sears added the drain in question to the design and noted that the Presby System uses sand instead of stone and is approved by the State.

Allen Hoffman and David Favreau performed a site visit prior to the meeting and found that the drain is 65 feet from the proposed system with 50 feet being required.

The proposed system is for a 5 bedroom house, seeking variances....after research by the BOH it was found that the house had only been approved in 2001 for 4 bedrooms. Variances cannot be granted for an increase in flow. A four-bedroom deed restriction with the Presby design was asked for by the BOH. Ronald Rana, the homeowner, agreed. Gary Menin made a motion to approve the system with a four-bedroom deed restriction along with the Presby deed restriction; Donna Clark seconded the motion; Discussion...none; all in favor.

1 Squareshire Variance Request: Two variances were requested. (1)To reduce the minimum separation distance from high groundwater and the SAS as required in 310CMR 15.212(1) from 4 feet to 3 feet and as required in Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations IV (f). And (2) a local upgrade approval from 310CMR 405(1) (I) to provide a sieve analysis in lieu of a percolation test. Steve Sears represented the home owner. This is a traditional system. Gary Menin made a motion to accept the variances; Donna Clark seconded; Discussion...none; all in favor.

8 Maple Street...request to discuss repair options of leaking septic tank. Holly Shaw represented the home owner. She explained that there was leaking through the pre-cast plug at the bottom of the septic tank and that it could effectively be repaired. After discussion Allen Hoffman suggested allowing the repair and requiring subsequent periodic inspection to insure the integrity of this repair. Gary Menin made a motion that, after the repair, the system be inspected annually for 5 years and that this be a deed restriction; Donna Clark seconded the motion; Discussion...none; all in favor.

Allen Hoffman will rough out the deed restriction for the applicant's attorney to formalize. It was noted that a construction permit will be required to make the repair and will be issued only after a deed restriction has been recorded.

14 Quail Roost Complaints... Home owner Dawn Hartnett gave the BOH permission to go on the property at any time. There will be a site visit by Allen Hoffman and David Favreau, after which a Special Meeting of the BOH will be called. The remainder of the Board declined to visit the site at this time.

3 Hardscrabble Road...construction permit extension for one year. Gary Menin made a motion to grant the extension; Allen Hoffman seconded; Discussion...none; all in favor. A letter will be sent.

Health Agent Report

85 Clinton Road Complaint...Arthur Coughlin Jr., the owner, was present to hear the report.

Anonymous complaint of a leaking septic system onto Clinton Road. Upon complaint, David Favreau performed onsite investigations three times...6/22; 9/28 (when the State DEP got a similar complaint); and a 9/29 site visit. Pictures were taken and submitted for the file. The BOH agreed that it is an unverified complaint. David Favreau will respond to the State.

12 North Row Road Complaint...David Favreau performed a site visit and took photos of the house/property from the street edge to provide for the file. Gary Menin had driven by the house. It is agreed that the complaint did not appear to be valid.

Future Agenda Item...Gary Menin feels that local BOH bylaws need to be revisited in connection with Quail Roost.

8:25pm The Board went into Executive Session to discuss possible criminal activities and update to an ongoing police investigation regarding a licensed septic system installer and septic system designer.

8:48pm Board returned to regular BOH Meeting.

8:49pm Donna Clark made a motion to adjourn; Allen Hoffman seconded; Discussion...none; all In favor.