



BOARD OF HEALTH

~~ MINUTES ~~

Thursday, October 24, 2024

This meeting was held via remote participation using ZOOM and YouTube.

Called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Staff in attendance: Roque Miramontes, Public Health Director; John Hedden, Chief Environmental Health Officer; Tomeka Gary, Public Health Coordinator.

Attending Members: Malcom MacNab, Chairman; Ann Smith, Vice-chair; Meredith Lepore, Kerry McKenna

Public Participant: None

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair MacNab announced that this meeting is being audio and video recorded

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Comment:	There were no public comments.
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III. Review and finalization of Board of Health comments on Surfside Crossing 40B development requested by ZBA

Sitting:	MacNab, Smith, McKenna, Lepore
Absent:	Jim Cooper
Discussion:	Malcolm MacNab - Described steps completed so far to develop a draft of BOH comments that included input from the Town Public Health Director as well as from comments collected previously at the 10/17/2024 BOH meeting from board members and the public. Meredith Lepore - Indicated that Our House meeting space for adolescents is near the proposed development and stated that this development would contaminate their drinking water. Additional stated that this area is a well recharge district, which makes this area particularly sensitive. She wanted to ensure strong language was used to describe the risks. Roque Miramontes - Stated that the language used in the draft comments created previously used language directly pulled from 2018 Select Board feedback on the development to describe the area as a well-head protection district. Malcolm MacNab - Stated that the board lacked specific expertise to address the risks associated with stormwater runoff and proposed that the BOH recommend that ZBA obtain an expert in this area to address the risks. Kerry McKenna - Expressed concern that the island has a single-source aquafer to provide drinking water so if the Town lost that water source to contamination the impact would be especially serious. Meredith Lepore - Indicated there might not be time for ZBA to hire an independent consultant and that the BOH should not recommend this development due to the risk of well contamination. Kerry McKenna - Recommended that the BOH provide feedback indicating that without additional information related to the safety of nearby wells to this development, the board could not recommend this project move forward. Ann Smith - Indicated the BOH should insist that an independent water consultant be contracted to examine the issue.

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	Malcolm MacNab - Stated the language in the draft comment document already states that the BOH does not recommend the project move forward without an independent consultant review. Ann Smith - States that she believes, and other members concurred, that the BOH has the power to block this development. Roque Miramontes - Reminded the group that the specific ask from ZBA was for comments from the BOH that they could then use to decide what feedback to provide or actions they should take on this project. Malcolm MacNab - Agreed, but stated the board was free to comment how they felt best reflected what should be done. Kerry McKenna - Asked whether the BOH could pay for the independent consultant Malcolm MacNab - Indicated that the BOH would have to make a separate request of the Town to fund the contract. Meredith Lepore - Indicated the main town sewer line goes through or near the property and any damage that occurs to that line could spill a significant amount of raw sewage in the environment. Group - That risk was added into the draft document. Malcolm MacNab - There were a number of typos identified in this document and the public health director stated he would review and edit for grammar and clarity. Meredith Lepore - Requested a change to the language indicating there is risk to public health if emergency fire equipment is unable to access the property. Malcolm MacNab - Once edits are complete, contents will be placed a letterhead and submitted by him. He will visit the health department on 10/25/24 to sign the document in person.
Public Comment:	No public comment
Action:	Motion to accept the documents contents and have chair Malcolm MacNab sign and submit the document on behalf of the group. (Motion by: Smith) (Seconded by: McKenna)
Roll-Call Vote	Carried 4-0 // MacNab, Smith, McKenna, Lepore (Aye) Absent: Cooper

V. Adjourn	
Action	Motion to adjourn the meeting (Motion by: McKenna) (Seconded by: Smith)
Roll-Call Vote:	Carried: 4-0// Macnab, Smith, McKenna, Lepore (Aye) Absent: Cooper

Submitted by Roque Miramontes