

BRAINTREE BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

April 21, 2016

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Arthur Bregoli, Chairman
Dr. Philip Nedelman, Vice-Chairman

ALSO PRESENT: Marybeth McGrath, Director of ML & I

Dr. Bregoli called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

MINUTES:

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the meeting minutes of December 17, 2015.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the meeting minutes of March 17, 2016.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Request for Permit to Keep Chickens-338 Pearl Street (King Y. Wong)

Present: King Y. Wong-338 Pearl Street

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that Mr. Wong is before the Board this evening to request a permit for the keeping of 10-12 chickens on his property located at 338 Pearl Street in Oak Ridge Estates. Ms. McGrath reviewed the plot plan and area plans with the Board. She advised that the location of the proposed chicken coop will be 60' from the back of the house, 300' to the side property line and 20' from the rear property line. She advised that all of the direct abutters have been notified, and she has received no calls from any of the abutters.

Ms. McGrath requested that the Board limit the total number of chickens to 12 at any one time.

Dr. Nedelman asked how often the department inspects.

Ms. McGrath advised that the department conducts an annual inspection prior to issuance of the permit, and inspections as needed, if complaints are received.

Dr. Bregoli advised that there shall be no roosters.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request, as presented.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

2) Request for Permit to Keep Chickens-157 Edgehill Road (Mike Gillis)

Present: Michael Gillis-157 Edgehill Road
Kevin Weldon-149 Edgehill Road
Abutting Neighbors

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that Mr. Gillis presently has chickens on the property. The department became aware that the chickens were on the property when we received a call about them. After investigating it, we did find that there were chickens on the property. At that point, we informed Mr. Gillis that he needed a permit to keep the chickens, which is why he is before the Board this evening.

Ms. McGrath advised that he presently has 16 chickens. A department inspector has been onsite and conducted an inspection, and foresees no problem with the chickens as they exist now. Ms. McGrath reviewed the plot plan and area plan with the Board. Mr. Gillis composts the manure, and can continue to do so, as long as it does not cause a nuisance condition.

Dr. Bregoli asked Mr. Gillis how long he has had the chickens.

Mr. Gillis advised he has had them for two years.

Ms. McGrath advised that the department just found out about the chickens one and a half months ago. She further advised that normally the Board only permits up to 12 chickens, and is recommending that as the number of chickens decreases that they never exceed 12 once Mr. Gillis reaches that point.

Mr. Gillis advised that would not be a problem.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request as presented.
Second By: Dr. Bregoli

3) Request for Permit to Keep Miniature Pot Belly Pigs-149 Edgehill Road (Kevin Weldon)

Present: Kevin Weldon-149 Edgehill Road
Michael Gillis-157 Edgehill Road
Abutting Neighbors

Ms. McGrath advised that the department received a call that the miniature pot belly pigs existed on the property, of which we had no knowledge. The department conducted an investigation determined that the pigs were on the property and have been there for about three months. Mr. Weldon was notified that he would need to obtain a permit to keep the pigs on the property.

The Board reviewed the plot plan and area plan.

Dr. Nedelman asked Mr. Weldon how much room he has for the pigs.

Mr. Weldon advised that they are usually indoors, and only outside for a few hours total a day. When outside, the three pigs are fenced in and confined at the back area of the property behind the house and beside the garage.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that the pigs are primarily indoor pets and go outside several times a during the day.

Mr. Weldon advised that the pigs are about full grown and are about 90lbs each. He advised that his plan is to keep the three pigs and no more. The pigs are strictly his pets and are therapeutic for a child relative.

Dr. Nedelman asked the individuals in the audience, if anyone was opposed to the request.

No one spoke in opposition.

Dr. Bregoli asked the individuals in the audience, if anyone was in favor of the request.

Angela Lek, a neighbor residing at 153 Edgehill Road spoke in favor of the pigs, and advised that they are really great in the neighborhood.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request as presented.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

4) Request for Variance of Restaurant Windows: Southside Tavern-941 Washington Street

Present: No representative from Southside Tavern present.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that this particular request is a formality. Southside Tavern is an existing restaurant at 941 Washington Street, and in the warm weather, their front dining room windows are designed to open to the outside.

As the establishment is existing and the windows have already been opened in the past in warm weather, the variance request is just to formalize the request and approval to allow the windows to continue to be opened in the warm weather.

Ms. McGrath requested the Board approve the request with the following conditions:

-if a problem is determine to exist with the presence of insects, inclement weather with the windows opened, that they be required to install air curtains or screens in the window enclosures.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request with conditions noted

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

5) Request for Lifeguard Variance:

a. Hampton Inn-215 Wood Road

Present: No representative from Hampton Inn was present.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that this is the annual lifeguard variance request from the Hampton Inn. They have an indoor pool and spa. The establishment provided the daily log reports from January 2015-April 2016. The majority of usage is on the weekends.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

b. Devon Wood Condominium Trust-1 A Devon Commons Lane

Present: No representative from Devon Wood Condominium Trust was present.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that this is the annual lifeguard variance request from Devon Wood Condominium Trust of the lifeguard provision for their outdoor pool and spa. They have all of the required signage displayed. They are not looking for a complete lifeguard variance, but rather a modified variance to have lifeguards present during higher peak bathing times on weekends and holidays. The variance request is for weekdays when it is slow.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

c. Jonathan's Landing Condominium-400 John Mahar Highway

Present: No representative from Jonathan's Landing was present.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that this request is for the outdoor pool. Last year there was a gate issue with regard to the locking devices, which has since been corrected. A department inspector has verified that the required locking devices are installed on the gates/doors into the pool enclosure. The complex is not looking for a full lifeguard variance, but rather a modified variance to have lifeguards present during higher peak bathing times on weekdays, weekends and holidays. The variance request is primarily for 8am-10am in the morning for therapeutic swimming by residents.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to approve the variance request.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli

INFORMATIONAL:

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that she has been requested to appear before a Special Opioid Crisis Committee of the Town Council on Monday April 23, 2016 to discuss what the department is doing to combat the opioid issue.

Ms. McGrath will advise the Board about this matter, if anything further is requested.

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm.

Second By: Dr. Bregoli