

A joint meeting of the Melrose and Wakefield Boards of Health was held remotely on June 18th, 2020. The meeting came to order at 7:03 pm. Present at the meeting remotely were Melrose Board members Maurine Garipay, Carol Ann Licitra and Frank Brincheiro, Wakefield Board members Laurel Gourville, Elaine Silva, and Candace Linehan as well Health Director Ruth Clay, Cindy Luongo and Mark Sardella the Wakefield Item, Wakefield residents, Sara Colvin, Prowse Family, Robbins family, Jessica Darling, Linda Govostes, Robert Vincent, Troop 701.

Wakefield BOH approved minutes from the June 3rd, 2020 meeting, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes, 3-0-0

Melrose BOH approved minutes from the June 3rd, 2020 meeting, Garipay yes, Licitra yes, Brincheiro yes 3- 0-0

Clay suggested the boards review the Health Directors report first so the Melrose BOH can adjourn since the agenda action items are for public hearings for Wakefield.

Health Director's Report

COVID 19 numbers as of yesterday for Melrose 241 and Wakefield 311. Numbers are very flat.

Public COVID 19 drive thru testing event for both communities will be tomorrow at Melrose City Hall Melrose lot and there is 110 people registered.

West Nile Virus testing started this week. The program will look like last year's program but will be adding more trapping and communication to the public.

Wakefield Town Hall is now open to the public by appointment only 8:30am-12:30pm.

Melrose City Hall will be opening on a date to be determined They are still installing plexi-glass and the Reopening Committee is still developing policies and procedures. All city employees are still encouraged to work remotely if they can.

Wakefield's next BOH meeting is scheduled for July 15th. The boards decided to go back to meeting separately. Melrose will meet on the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is Tuesday July 14th for this month only but will go on to meet the first Tuesday of the month.

Brincheiro motioned to adjourn the meeting for Melrose seconded by Licitra, Garipay yes, Brincheiro yes, Licitra yes 3:0:0 Melrose adjourned 07:19 PM.

Silva motioned to open the public hearing variance request for 7 Norway St seconded by Licitra, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes

Public Hearing: Variance request for 7 Norway St Keeping of Animals regulations

Sara Colvin noted that the chicken coop will not be placed the required 50ft from all property lines as the coop will be 30ft from 28 Kingmont St. This was done to maximize the distance from the Prowse property. Present at the hearing were RoseEllen Prowse and Mr Prowse who questioned why regulations are in place if they can be waived. They are also concerned about the chickens attracting coyotes to the neighbor that are already present. Gourville went to Essex St today and spoke with the abutters including the Robbins who are listening in tonight; they did not have a concern. BOH member Linehan said the abutter closest to Colvin did not have a concern, Vice Chair Silva said Sara Colvin went to conservation and was granted a permit from them, she fully understands what she is asked to do for conservation. Silva motioned to close the public hearing for 7 Norway St variance request, Silva seconded, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes

Linehan motioned to grant the variance as requested, seconded by Silva motion passed 3-0-0 Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes .

Public Hearing: Variance request for 8 Webster St Keeping of Animals regulations

Linehan motioned to open the public hearing, seconded by Silva, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes 3:0:0

Clay determined that a variance was not needed by Linda Govostes of 8 Webster St. Linda Govostes was asking to increase the number of chickens that she already has. The board decided that the existing pen and coop needs to be inspected and to be sure that the fencing that is there was sufficient and is in compliance with current regulations before they could allow Linda to add more chickens.

Linehan motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Silva, Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes 3:0:0

Discussion about Town Meeting Article 27

The Board of Health will be the enforcer of the proposed styrene food packaging ban. Chairperson Gourville said that the board has not had the opportunity to review this and is hoping that it will be postponed at the town meeting on Saturday. Resident Robert Vincent spoke to the board with his concerns for the article. He has expressed that he is not opposed to the ban but more concerned that the Health Department will be tasked with enforcing the ban and that the department was not involved in any discussions about the proposed ban. Clay said that Melrose has delayed implementing the styrene container ban until July 2021.

Other business

None

Wakefield Silva motioned to adjourn the meeting seconded by Linehan, motion passed 3-0-0.
Gourville yes, Silva yes, Linehan yes meeting adjourned 0810 Pm.

Next meeting June 17th, 2020 7:00 PM via zoom.

Materials distributed

Agenda

Draft Minutes June 3rd 2020

7 Norway Chicken permit application

8 Webster chicken permit documents

Health Directors Report

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Luongo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cindy Luongo