

Shutesbury Board of Health
September 21, 2022, 7 pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Catherine Hilton, chair; Norene Pease, Arleen Read, Garrett Simonsen, board members. Guests: Miriam DeFant, Conservation Commission; Samuel Gladstone, Jewish Community of Amherst; Chris Elliott and Lisa Kuerzel, cemetery abutters.

Minutes of September 7 meeting approved.

40-42 Highland Drive DWCPs: this item was accidentally passed over.

Discussion with Miriam:

1) Cat and Miriam performed an inspection at 155 High Point, V-24, on September 21. A partially fallen tree in a wetland was suspended over a neighbor's driveway and house. Cat provided an emergency order to take the tree down, which allows Conservation to issue an Emergency Certificate.

2) 16 Gass Lite Lane, ZB-683: emergency repair. A lakefront property so Conservation is involved. Building sewer line is damaged; about fifteen feet of pipe needs replacement. Board voted that Cat will issue an emergency repair order, with no need for a permit from the BOH. It was noted that there is some thought that the pipe may be Orangeburg pipe in which case the entire length of the pipe must be replaced.

3) 66 Lake Drive, B-49. Miriam was seeking clarification on the septic system permit for this property. The owner, Bob Douglas, has applied for a permit to remove a drainage ditch through his property that is bringing runoff from Lake Drive into the lake. This ditch was not included in the septic system permit and does not meet property line setback requirements. At the inlet there is a drain, which is owned and maintained by the Lake Wyola Association.

4) O-32: A site visit with Miriam, BOH members, and Claudia may be arranged for some time the week of September 26 to view the household trash that had been dumped there before the town acquired the property.

7:15 appointment with Library Director was cancelled.

Noreen will attend an organizational meeting of the PH Excellence grant team on September 22. She reminded the board that there is a briefing on November 2.

A brief break was taken at about 7:35.

7:45 JCA Cemetery continued.

Garrett summarized his conversations with Andrew Kelly of DEP's Drinking Water Program. We are to expect a letter outlining DEP's position on natural burial at the Jewish cemetery: because the entire cemetery is outside the 200-foot buffer around the school's public water supply well, DEP declines to get involved and leaves any regulatory action to the local Board of Health under chapter 114 section 37. The letter will also describe DEP's recommendations.

After much discussion, it was agreed that JCA will have the property surveyed and that the survey will show the exact locations of the private drinking water wells on five abutting properties. A future percolation test will be located on the basis of this survey.

It should be noted that the abutters present objected to natural burials within 300 feet of their well.

Adjourn 8:45