

**BOARD OF HEALTH
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
JULY 11, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rhoads called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

18 AUG -2 AM 9:41

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman David Rhoads, Vice-Chairman Bruce Shepley, Peter Hoyt, Tom Romaniak (Code Enforcement), Pam Gerry (Administrative Assistant)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jack Guerino, (iBerkshires); Matt McGrory, (iBerkshires intern); William & Pam Martischnig; James Daunais (Friend St., arrived approximately 4:25 PM)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the June 13 Hearing were amended & approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bill Martischnig raised two issues.

- He was concerned about the safety of cyclists on the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail, many of whom do not wear helmets. Shepley indicated his support for helmets but thought that the state helmet law only applied to those 12yo or under. Nevertheless, the helmet law is rarely if ever enforced by the authorities (Rail Trail sections patrolled by either APD or DCR). He referred Mr. Martischnig to the APD.
- Mr. Martischnig also noted that the 60 Maple St. property, the site of a recent fire, remains unsecured. Romaniak indicated that he is aware of the situation, but that this is an issue for the Building Commissioner. Moreover, the site cannot be fully secured until after the insurance company(ies) have completed their evaluations. Romaniak continues to monitor the site.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

CLOSED CASES: We voted unanimously to close the following cases.

- 6 Lower Linden St., Apt. 2B: The unit remains locked, awaiting rehab. There is currently no issue.
- 21 Murray St.: No electricity. The bill was paid & the trash, reported subsequently, was removed.
- 7 Richmond Ln.: Romaniak reported uncut grass & broken appliances. Both issues were resolved.
- 12-26 First St.: The uncut grass that motivated this complaint has now been cut.
- 3 Myrtle St.: Big Y dumpster smell. The offending contents were removed.
- 48 Friend St.: It was clean when Romaniak arrived. No violation was apparent.
- 4 Tracie Ave.: The uncut lawn that motivated this complaint has now been mowed.
- 23 Commercial St.: Garbage build-up in cellar. Romaniak contacted the property manager, who had the cellar cleaned up.
- 48 Bellevue Ave.: Unkempt property. Romaniak contacted the owner, who subsequently cut the grass.
- 32 Greylock Ave.: The trash build-up that motivated this complaint has since been removed.
- 40 Meadow St.: The unmown grass that motivated this complaint has now been cut.

OPEN CASES: The following cases were investigated but will remain open until resolution.

- 3-5 Mill St.: Conditions within dwelling unit. This has been on ongoing tenant-landlord/daughter-father dispute, which is currently in Housing Court. Romaniak will continue to monitor this case.
- 76 Friend St.: Trash backyard, rats. The property management company was to contact the APD Animal Control Officer to determine how best to resolve this issue. The trash consists mostly of furniture with little or no garbage. Romaniak will monitor until resolved.
- 218 Grove St.: Trash buildup. Romaniak sent orders to clean it up & will monitor progress.
- 12 Valley St.: No hot water, mold. This case is still in legal proceedings.
- 4 Garfield St.: Unmown lawn. Romaniak provided a list of mowers to the occupant. He also sent orders.
- 38 Temple St.: Trash, uncut grass. Romaniak is still in the process of ascertaining the issues.
- 103 Friend St.: Earlier in the meeting, Romaniak circulated pictures showing that most of the debris, etc. had been removed from the property. Nevertheless, we decided to keep this case open until the requested task was completed. Mr. Daunais arrived later to request additional patience as he continued to comply

with our demands. Rhoads expressed our appreciation of his efforts to date but emphasized that we did want to see all the debris removed. Mr. Daunais said that an unforeseen circumstance had slowed his efforts, but that he was now back on track. Romaniak will monitor periodically until next meeting.

VIOLATIONS (1): 218 Grove St., trash & overgrown property

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Unforeseen new business: Trash dumped on vacant lot at 22 Melrose St. (corner with Marmon St.). Romaniak will investigate issue further for next meeting.

LOCAL & COUNTY UPDATES:

- Berkshire Co. BOH Association (6/20): Neither Rhoads nor Shepley attended. Next meeting is Aug. 15.
- Mass Recycling Center workshop (6/21): Rhoads attended with Linda Cernik. Mass DEP reviewed the status of recycling & trash disposal and presented a draft of their vision for 2020-2030. Most relevant to Adams, DEP has grants for programs to encourage recycling & to enhance signage at transfer stations. Cernik plans to apply for both.
- Berkshire Public Health Alliance (6/21): Rhoads attended & was elected vice president for the year.
- Northern Berkshire Emergency Sheltering drill (July 26): Shepley provided further details, notably that the call will go out about 7:00 AM with the drill lasting about 6 hours. It will be held at St. Elizabeth's in North Adams to respond to flooding. State, county & local agencies will participate. Volunteer "evacuees" will be provided hot meals & other amenities. Funding is provided by a grant to BRPC.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Shepley inquired about the status of our Berkshire VNA contract. Gerry responded that all is well & that our quarterly installment has been scheduled.

REVIEW MAIL:

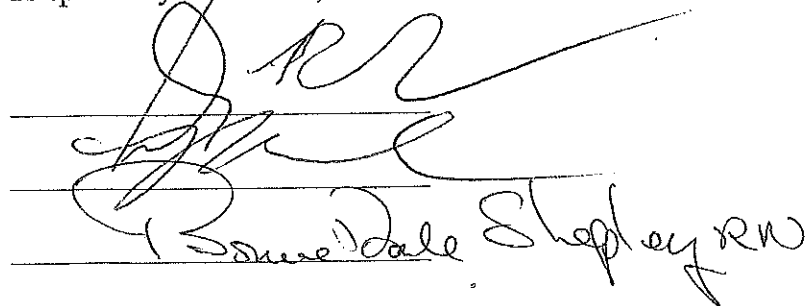
- BCBOHA will hold its annual new member orientation on August 20. The announcement was circulated.
- BCBOHA also sent us information from MDPH regarding procedures & guidelines for dealing with bats. As recommended by DPH, Rhoads forwarded the information to Kim Witek, Adams ACO.
- BCBOHA sent Market Match flyers promoting the use of public assistance funds at local farmers' markets. Shepley indicated that other agencies take the lead in disseminating this information, e.g. COA.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for August 1, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was passed unanimously at 4:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date 08/01/2018



Rose Dale Shepley RW