

PERU BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Monday March 21, 2022 9:00AM
Community Room
Peru Town Hall 3 E Main Rd
Peru, MA 01235

Agenda

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. State recording status.
4. Review and approve minutes from 2/14/22 BOH meeting.
5. Ed Fahey's report including follow up on 127 E Windsor Rd and 55 E Windsor Road.
6. Mask Mandate in town hall expired 3/14/22.
7. Follow up mold remediation in Community Room
8. Update on Hogweed
9. Garnet Lake ownership
10. COVID update
11. 250th Celebration, no food vendors have committed, all potential vendors are familiar with needs for permits. The only vendor from Peru will be the Fire Department planning to sell fried dough
12. Private well regulation further discussion, including revisions to existing DEP guidelines and other town's regulations.
13. Discuss joint meeting with Planning Board re trailers parked on property.
14. Schedule next meeting, set agenda.
15. Adjourn

The list of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the board which may be discussed, and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Official Posting: Peru Town website: www.townofperuma.com

Posted March 2, 2022 @ 7:20am by *Kim Leach, Town Clerk*

Peggy White Chair Peru Board of Health pwhiteperuboh@aol.com

PERU BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Monday March 21, 2022, 9:00 AM

Community Room 3 E Main Rd

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM
2. Roll call: present Nanette Mone, Peggy White, Darryl Darby and Ed Fahey, Health Agent.
3. Nanette recording.
4. Review and approve Minutes from last meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes from 02.14.2022. All were in favor.
5. Ed 's report: (see attached) Camp Danby is in process with permits and inspections for this year; received a perc test plan for 220 E. Windsor Rd. Fine with no problems or variances, but no installer yet named; 55 E. Windsor LLC has not responded to Ed to resolve the septic issue and the board agreed that it was time to post a placard on the property to the effect that the premise is not inhabitable to state the "dwelling is unfit". The information letter to 127 E. Windsor Road got no response. The letter stated that the board is aware that the residents are in contact with the Hilltown CDC. Ed suggested that the board take the further step and send an official letter. A motion was made to issue an order to have a perc test done by July 1, 2022 and an install done by Nov 1, 2022. All were in favor. It was a difficult decision as all the members of the board are acquainted with the residents and know that the CDC paperwork can be daunting but be the absence of any response to previous missives it was felt that the rules had to be applied "evenly".
6. The mask mandate expired 3.14.2022. Darryl said that we should let it be unless the situation evolves. Since there are town employees who have compromising health issues and/or due to age considerations, it was agreed that a notice shall be posted recommending that masks continue to be worn indoors. The notice will request that the masks be worn as a courtesy not as a mandate.
7. Mold remediation follow up: Darryl thinks that the BOS will wait until humid weather before taking any further measures. Peggy said that they agreed to certain items such as covering the window to the back room and sealing the door. It was acknowledged that it all hinged on the inspection of the building itself. The board agreed to keep the item on the agenda.
8. Update on hogweed issue: check with the BOS for any action.
9. Garnet Lake ownership in pursuit of whether this is a situation of a semi- private swimming beach and if the water needs to be tested for any contaminants. Darryl mentioned geese in the area. Ed will check with town administrator on how to access the assessor to find out the owner of the lake.
10. Covid update: just that it still recommended for immunocompromised and those over 65 to continue to wear masks indoors.
11. 250th celebration update: Kim Leach told Peggy that the food vendors have not yet committed but Ed said that the vendors have permits and know what is expected. If a vendor does not have a permit, then Ed will inspect their mobile units. Peggy said there are other issues that she feels should be checked such as whether porta potties will be used, whether town facilities can be used and whether the water should be tested before the event. There is some question about the repairs being ready and, Nanette said, whether the system is able to support heavy use. Darryl wondered if insurance is an issue. The board decided to invite Jim Kenny and Jesse Pelkey to our next meeting. Peggy will reach out to them.

12. Private well regulations further discussion: Darryl had no questions about the DEP guidance; Nanette still has misgivings. Peggy would like to proceed but now it appears that the state (MA) is pursuing regulations seriously. Ed said that he had heard about it too. The board wondered if we should wait and see if the state will proceed speedily as they had not done so in the past. The other question is what should the board adopt in the face of possibly being over-ridden by state regulations. Ed said that the board has the authority to make the reg's stricter but not weaker. What that means at this time is not known. Nanette is concerned about the water volume requirements for a well; for instance, a one-bedroom dwelling must have 700 gallons per day capacity. She thinks that is profligate. Darryl said that a formula is used and Ed said that the well drillers know what can be expected and if the site chosen will be adequate. Nanette wondered if there can be variances. Peggy said it is better to have more than needed than not enough water. Nanette wants to be sure that residents are not overwhelmed by costly regulations and not being able to make decisions of their own. Peggy feels that it will give people a safer well if the volume of water prevents a problem in the future. Nanette also noted that the well initially will be tested for many contaminants some of which seem extreme such as arsenic but Darryl said that such were generally associated with manufacturing and would not apply in Peru. There was discussion back and forth about which regulations would be adopted, that changes could be made in the future as needed, that many towns have adopted the DEP guidance word for word and more. Peggy wanted it stated that "officials are elected to serve the town and keep it safe in terms of public health". The BOH does this by regulation, policies and permits. The next issue discussed was how to proceed in the event that the board decides to adopt well reg's. There has to be a public hearing where we seek input from the residents, notices have to be made in the town website showing the full regulation, summaries have to be done for the purpose of the meeting and a filing would have to be made to the state. ~~The issue then goes to annual town meeting to be passed or not.~~ Peggy said that if 200 people showed up at the meeting and were opposed to the well regulations, then she would not proceed. The discussion will continue at the next meeting.

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13. Discuss joint meeting with the planning board about trailers parked on property: this issue has been "hanging around" but it is too late to do anything before annual town meeting. Nanette said that we had previously decided to let it be a complaint driven issue and suggested that we see what happens this summer. It was agreed.
14. Schedule next meeting for May 2, 2022 at 10:00AM. The agenda will include Fahey's report, update on hogweed with the BOS, Garnet Lake ownership, 250th celebration with guests Jim Kenney and Jesse Pelkey and additional well reg. discussion.
15. Peggy had several announcements. One is the FCRCAC notification that there is a wild avian influenza that is affecting MA and the eastern coast. Residents are cautioned to protect their free-range domestic chickens from contact with the wild birds by keeping them indoors and out-door enclosures should be covered with mesh. Also, the free Stop the Spread test sites are closed but tests are still available at St. Lukes It just have to be paid or use insurance. Another item is that 4th booster is recommended by Phiser for those over 65 and Moderna advises all adults to get the shot.
16. Also, the BPHA has added a new public health nurse to their staff and is available to answer questions. Her name is Lydia Shulman. One more item for thought is that there is a large marijuana plant going into production in Windsor and other towns already have numbers of the shops. There was a proposal to turn the Hinsdale mink farm to marijuana use. There are issues such as water use, noise, smell, 24- hour lights for security and more. Just be aware of potential.

17. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:40AM. All were in favor.

Minutes respectfully were submitted as a draft by Nanette Mone 05/01/2022

Approved 5-2-22

Nanette Mone *Nanette Mone*

Peggy White *Peggy White*

Darryl Darby *Darryl Darby*

Article attached: Ed Fahey's report

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2022
Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU