

North Brookfield Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Date: 6.21.23

Members (checked if present)

Ethan Melad	•
Doug Borowski	•
Jillian Phillips	•

Meeting Called to order: 6:00 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:34 pm

Minutes:

- Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm, all members present.
- Board voted in favor to approve the minutes from the 5-17-23 meeting.
- New correspondence: received a request for a property test, unsure of what kind (ground, water, etc.), Ethan said he would contact the resident to discuss.

Old Business

- The resident involved in the 2022 transfer station incident attended to discuss the possibility of being allowed back. The situation was discussed separately with transfer station employees to get their insight on it. Tabled any final decision and vote to next meeting as it may need a public hearing.
- Board is unsure if by allowing one banned resident back they would have to allow all banned residents back, will work to create a clearer policy regarding bans.
- Camp Permits- there has been some back and forth communication with Camp Atwater. They have not turned any paperwork in yet, but are aware and working on it.
- The transfer station position is still open, no update on hiring.

New Business

- The board voted in favor to approve the updated trash hauler regulations. Prices within were updated to be correct and outdated information was deleted.
- The board voted in favor to approve the change to allow people with no recycling center sticker (residents and non-residents) to use the center to recycle mattresses, e-waste, and tires with a \$5 surcharge fee per item (on top of the original fee to recycle item).
- Discussed the need to draft a clearer set of guidelines as there has been some confusion on who can use the recycling center and what they can recycle. Also need better regulation for 'Take It or Leave It' shed, maybe better signage, time limit on items, having to check in to leave an item.
- Discussed a potential problem of a house draining its septic into the storm drain. The house does not seem to be connected to sewer nor have a septic tank. A fecal coliform test was conducted on a sample from the storm drain on 6-21-23. The results should be back in a week and then the board will discuss next steps. Will have to discuss with sewer department about who's jurisdiction it is depending on result.

- Discussed the abandoned property on Bullard Rd. There is no more trash, but there is some furniture and the building is falling apart, which is a health hazard. The Attorney General has resources available for abandoned properties. Jillian offered to further investigate the topic.
- Discussed the Green Gold Nuisance smell. There have been complaints from neighbors of strong odors. There was a DEP inspection conducted recently, but the report is not available yet. Green Gold keeps saying they will replace the filters. Board discussed asking for proof of filter change and following up on the availability of the DEP report again. There is an informational meeting on June 28th with Green Gold and some of the neighbors as well as the Planning Board. Someone from BOH will attend to gain more insight and determine the next steps.
- Discussed the BOH's role in handling hoarding situations as well as protocols and resources. There is a process of checking in, conducting inspections, determining violations, offering assistance with resolving violations, and then checking back in and reinspecting. The board discussed what exactly defines "fit for human habitation," and needing to revisit some past situations as well as check in on some current potential situations.

New Business Unforeseen

- None.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.
- Next meeting will be July 19th, 2023 at 6:00 pm.