

Town Manager's Report Monday, June 23, 2014

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

Following are some of the matters reported on this week by various Town Departments:

FIRE

Personnel: Lieutenant Jon White has decided to retire in early July. Jon was hired in 1984 and has worked tirelessly for the CFD. For over 30 years, Jon has given his all to this Department, and on behalf of the CFD I'd like to extend a big thanks to Jon and his family and well wishes for a long and healthy retirement!

Emergency Management: The emergency generator project at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center is nearing completion. The generator will be connected to the building this Friday. This is a critical component to our emergency sheltering program, allowing us to use HWCC as our primary community emergency shelter.

LIBRARY

New Social Media @ CFPL: CFPL is now on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/concordlibrary>. New Branch Librarian, Theresa Maturevich has also created new Pinterest boards at <http://www.pinterest.com/concordlibrary>, which include such topics as beach reads and crafts tied to the summer reading program. Please keep in mind that CFPL is also on Twitter and can be followed @CFPLUpdates.

Concord Seed Lending Library: Enid Boasberg, co-founder of the Concord Seed Lending Library, was recently interviewed by WBUR reporter, Andrea Shea. The segment aired on WBUR's Morning Edition (FM 90.9) on 6/18. Here is a link to the audio and text from the interview. <http://www.wbur.org/2014/06/18/concord-seed-lending-library-preserves-heirloom-seeds-and-their-stories>

General Updates: On 6/19 local author, Rick Frese gave an interesting talk on his new book Concord and the Civil War: From Walden Pond to the Gettysburg Front, which 17 residents attended.



CFPL was open from 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 22nd in support of CCHS students studying for exams. The students were very appreciative of this continued service.

On 6/23 Janaya Kizzie will join CFPL as the Project Archivist to arrange the First Parish Church Records. Prior to this position Janaya served as Archivist for the Royal Bank of Scotland/Citizens Bank since 2010. Janaya has a master's degree in Library and Information Studies from U.R.I. She has volunteered in the Providence Public Library Special Collections and worked as a Reference Assistant and Archives Intern at Roger Williams University and as an Archives Assistant at Princeton University.

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Natural Resources Division

Natural Resources Commission: At the June 18 meeting, the NRC heard the following matters: the continued Notice of Intent hearing for the after-the-fact reconstruction of a driveway at 24 Off Harrington Avenue and a Request for Determination of Applicability to remove invasive species at 1332 Old Marlboro Road. Orders of Conditions were issued to demolish and reconstruct single family houses at 1123 Monument Street and 169 Heath's Bridge Road as well as for the renovation and reconstruction of the Middlesex School barns at 1411 & 1435 Lowell Road. The NRC also heard a discussion by Dinny McIntyre and Mark Hanson on concerns linking neonicotinoid insecticides such as imidacloprid to colony collapse disorder in honeybees. The NRC agreed to a joint education program to raise public awareness on the potential effects of imidacloprid use, which is widely used to kill grubs in lawns, as flea control for pets, for termite control, and for agricultural and garden pest control.

Health Division

Bottled Water Bylaw inspections: Inspections have been completed at all retailers to check for compliance with the town bylaw Drinking Water in Single Serve PET bottles. 70 inspections were conducted with two retailers found to be in violation. The Health Division has received two complaints to date for 2014 about possible violations of the bylaw, one of which was found to be a retailer selling bottled water.

Septic permits: The number of septic permits being received by the Health Division remains high. Assistant Health Director Stan Sosnicki reviewed 10 sets of plans this week, and waiting time is approximately 2 weeks for plans to be reviewed. Seven building reviews and two soil tests were also completed.

Board of Health hearing on proposed tobacco regulation: The Board of Health will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 24 to consider proposed revisions to its regulation, *Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products*. The hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the first floor conference room, DPLM Building, 141 Keyes Rd. All members of the public are welcome to attend. In advance of the hearing, a notice containing a summary of the proposed regulation was sent to all businesses with tobacco sales, food service, retail food, motel, swimming pool, body art, and tanning licenses. Tobacco retailers were sent a complete written copy of the proposed regulation; all other licensees were directed to an on-line copy of the regulation, which is available at:

http://www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_HealthNews

Building Inspections Division

Shaw Farm Road development - 1st home is ready for occupancy: “The Homes on Elm” project, a Comprehensive Permit project located on Elm Street/Route 119/2A and developed by ABODE, is ready to receive a certificate of occupancy for the first of 8 units.

Woods Hill Table Restaurant - 24 Commonwealth Avenue: The Building Inspections Division has issued a limited building permit allowing replacement of the existing foundation of the former West Concord Super Market at 24 Commonwealth Avenue. This is the first permit allowing the conversion of the former grocery store into a new 5,130 sq. ft. restaurant.

Planning Division

Woods Hill Table Restaurant - 24 Commonwealth Avenue: Planning Division staff met with the Applicants to review the conditions of the Special Permit and the steps that need to be taken for issuance of the building permit and ultimately for the Certificate of Occupancy, in an effort to facilitate and streamline the process for the Applicants and all of the Town departments involved. The Planning Board will open a public hearing on July 8th to consider an increase in the size of the restaurant from 4800 s.f. to 5200 s.f. (the added 400 s.f. will be in the basement and second floor).

Historic Districts Commission: At the June 19 meeting, the HDC reviewed three continued and two new applications for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission approved new Certificates of Appropriateness for the roof color at 427 Lowell Road; the new addition to 131 Monument Street; a new garage door at 631 Main Street; and additional paving at 17 Monroe Place. The Commission also held an extensive discussion on the proposed new garages and addition to 252 Main Street and continued the discussion to the July 17 meeting to allow time for the Applicant to consider additional options. The Commission also agreed to cancel their scheduled meeting on July 3 and will not meet again until July 17.

Historical Commission: The CHC met on June 10 at their new meeting space in the Harvey Wheeler Community Center's Clock Tower Room. The CHC met with Town Engineer Bill Renault to review the proposed redesign of a Lowell Road culvert and agreed to send a letter to FEMA to state that the project had their support and will not negatively impact any historic resources. The Commission also discussed projects for the coming year and reviewed project updates for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Heywood Meadow Stone Wall reconstruction, and Old Manse Barn project, and their own Archeology project.