

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

July 8, 2009

The meeting convened at 1:00 PM. Present were Chairman Louis Fazen, III, Members Nancy A. Sacco and Richard H. Seder, Public Health Director, Paul C. Pisinski, Public (arrived at 1:30), Health Nurse Leslie Chamberlin, Sanitary Inspector Dennis Costello and Administrative Assistant Barbara M. Luther.

TOPIC	
BRIEFING	<p>Briefing was provided by Administrative Assistant Barbara M. Luther and Sanitary Inspector Dennis Costello. They explained the letters from Granuaile Rd. residents regarding a “stinky stream” and that the residents have asked to be heard by the Board at 3:00 PM. The need for discussion on possibly charging schools for inspections was explained by Mr. Costello.</p> <p>Mr. Pisinski arrived at 1:30 PM and briefed the board members on the history of the “stinky stream” in the area of Ward Rd., Main St., Granuaile Rd. and Brigham St. He advised that these types of complaints have been brought to the Board of Health over the last ten (10) or so years. Every time a septic system is replaced it appears that the problem has been solved. However, with the next spring the smell becomes an issue again. The stream comes out of a swampy area behind houses on Main St. at the Westborough town line. At one time the town hired Fuss & O’Neil to take “grab samples” and no fecal coliform was found. Mr. Pisinski advised explained that the samples were taken on only one “dry” day, and that there should be “wet” grabs also over several days, but the cost of this type of testing is upwards of \$25,000 per year. It is unknown if the odor is just the smell of a swamp, caused by beaver dams or by some old septic system. It was suggested that Dr. Wang, a resident of town, might know some student limnologists who would be interested in studying the area and possibly determine the cause of the smell. Another suggestion was to request that the Board be allowed to use some of the Board of Selectmen’s Engineering budget to investigate, or even possibly speaking with a State Representative about getting some help in determining the cause and how to alleviate it.</p>

PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

TOPIC	
	3:00 PM 3 Residents from Granuaile Rd. residents complaining about the “stinky stream” that follow from the Ward Rd. area, under Rte. 30 and down behind Brigham St
DISCUSSION	<p>Stinky Stream Complainants Leena Dasguta, Judith Quinlan, and Bess Hartley, all from Granuaile Rd. arrived at about 3:00PM to request some help from the Board of Health regarding the “stinky stream” which runs behind Ms. Dasguta’s home and is making it impossible for her family to use their deck or open their window, because of the terrible smell which quite often emanates from the stream. The women were asked to explain the odor issue to the members and staff. The women advised that not only is the smell bad behind 4 Granuaile Rd, (Dasguta’s residence) but because the stream originates from the Ward Rd. area the smell affects them as they take their walks. When asked, the ladies reported that the smell was there last year a bit, but this year it is much worse. Ms. Hartley reported that the smell on Ward Rd. have been noticeable for a few years. The ladies agreed that it is worse after the rain, smells like septage and that they are concerned that someone’s septic is draining into the stream. It was explained that both houses on Ward Rd that are near the stream have new septic systems, as well as the house on Brigham St. Mr. Pisinski explained that low pressure and wind from the west will cause the smell to be more prominent and Mrs. Dasguta agreed that the rain and fog cause the smell to be worse; it often extends as far up as 200 Main St. When asked if</p>

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	<p>there was any time during the year that the smell was not noticeable, Mrs. Dasguta advised that it is quite frequent all year long, but in the spring and summer time it prevents them from using the deck and opening windows.</p> <p>The board members agreed to have all the septic systems in the area plotted, and Mr. Pisinski advised that he has some suspicions about 2 houses in the area. He and Mr. Costello explained that this is a trickling stream and that these type of streams may create a stronger odor because of the rotting leaves, other organics and fecal matter. They also explained the cycle of beavers and their dam construction. The residents were advised that before they had arrived the board and Mr. Pisinski had been talking about contacting the MWRA to request they do some testing because the stream eventually enters the MWRA Aqueduct. The members had also discussed speaking with another town resident who works in this field and may have some interns who might be able to take this on as a project. The town did hire an engineering firm a few years ago and the stream was tested, but everything showed fine on that day. The key is to take several samples over several days and conditions. The board members will ask the MWRA to take water samples and look for human or animal fecal coliform, versus organic decomposing leaves causing the total coliform. The ladies will be notified of a date in January when they will be invited to return to a Board of Health Meeting to hear the finding. They were encouraged to call into the office when the smell is great. If the Board of Health cannot determine a solution, it was promised that the members will continue the discussion and make it a town wide issue.</p>
ACTION	Residents in the area are encouraged to call the office and each call and the conditions on that day will be put into a log for documentation hoping to determine a pattern.
PENDING	Results discussion to take place at January meeting of the board.

NEW BUSINESS

TOPIC	Discussion on possibly charging schools for Food License to assist in paying for the 4 required inspections each year. MAHB report and Globe Article
DISCUSSION	<p>Mr. Costello told the members that he and several other Boards of Health in Massachusetts received calls from Graduate Students from Harvard School of Public Health asking for copies of school food inspection forms. The fact that they were working towards a Globe article was never revealed. Mr. Costello was able to speak for both the Town of Southborough, and the Town of Boylston. This information was used as part of a Globe article that was not very complementary to school cafeterias, especially in larger cities and towns. Mr. Costello went on to explain that in Southborough only two schools prepare the food in Southborough; Trottier Middle School cooks for itself and two other schools and Woodward Elementary School only for itself. His inspections have found all the schools to be close to perfect. Mr. Costello explained that he and Public Health Director, Paul C. Pisinski had spoken about the possible need to begin charging the schools for their Food Licenses, which is not currently being done. However, if the state and the Department of Education, from which the school cafeterias also must secure a certificate, insist on 4 inspections per year, it could be more than our small staff can handle. A licensing fee (which is charged to all other food establishments) might defer the cost and allow us to hire someone to help with the inspections of the school cafeterias. Mr. Costello suggests that any fee charged the School Cafeterias, should be based on the number of violations found during any inspection. This would help pay for follow-up inspections that would be necessary to insure compliance after a</p>

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	violation was found.
ACTION	Mrs. Luther will check with Northborough to see if they charge the schools for food licenses.
PENDING	Continued review and research into the cost of meeting the state required inspections of School Cafeterias, with possible change in licensing policy.

TOPIC	Camp Licensing & Fees
DISCUSSION	Mr. Costello advised that the state limits the license fee to \$75.00; along with researching fees for Food Licenses, he will also look into the regulations for licensing and inspecting Day Camps. He believes that there is an area in the state regulations which allows towns to increase the licensing fees to a more reasonable amount after adopting or adhering to particular guide lines. He will research this and provide information at the next meeting. He is suggesting that the fee be increased because he is finding that many of the camps are meeting only the bare minimum standards of the code. He has already met with the principals of two of the schools that host summer day camps and spoke to them about requirements that must be met such as toilet facilities, safe locations for the students in case of a storm, etc. This is again a case of the state mandating certain regulations be met, without considering the cost for the local approving authority to inspect and enforce the regulation. While Mr. Costello will research how the town might increase the license cost to reflect the inspections which need to be done, he reported to the Board that he will be working with Mrs. Luther on revising the Day Camp Application Form to include all or most of the information found on the inspection forms. Developing a list of unlicensed camps to be made available to the public was also discussed
ACTION	Mr. Costello will research how the town might increase the licensing fees to reflect the inspections which need to be done.
PENDING	Research into State Statute allowing towns to increase fees; final determination of action and new Day Camp Application

TOPIC	Discussion of Flu Clinics (11/4 11/5 Seniors at Sr. Ctr. And Sat. 11/14 EDS Woodward Gym for EDS Drill) ages 19 and up. Fees for uninsured under 65.
DISCUSSION	It was decided that the Board will again purchase 200 additional vaccines over and above the doses provided by the state. At this time it is not believed that the H1N1 vaccine will be ready for distribution at that time. Once it is developed it needs to be approved by the FDA, cost must be determined, a determination of who is to receive first priority. Also, the vaccination is expected to be a 2 part process one month apart. With all these questions still open although development may be in October, availability may not be until first of the year 2010. Ms. Chamberlin will initially be focused on running a normal annual clinic for Seniors, Town Employees and First Responders at the Senior Center on Nov. 4 th . On Nov. 14 th the clinic will be a repeat of the EDS Drill of last year open to the public. The plan is to advertise more heavily and earlier.
ACTION	Additional advertising will be started earlier this year and sign boards will be used.

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PENDING	Research and purchase of sign boards and other advertising for the clinic.
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TOPIC	Other reports from the Public Health Nurse
DISCUSSION	Ms. Chamberlin explained the interaction she has had with St. Mark's School's Summer Explorer Program and the procedure for identifying and caring for sick. She also advised the board members that Mr. Steve Whynot was in the process of inventorying the supply closets (Trottier School, Board of Health Office, and MRC Trailer) and will provide an Excel Sheet list of location and inventory to the MRC & Board of Health/Emergency Management Director.
ACTION	Ms. Chamberlin was asked to see if medical exams were required before students attended the summer program.
PENDING	Receipt of list, and continuing communication/interaction with St. Mark's School

TOPIC	Seatbelt Use Issue
DISCUSSION	It was reported that in Massachusetts only 60% of people use seatbelts when that average in the country is 80%. Members would like to look into this issue, possibly at the Heritage Day booth. It was suggested that maybe "Buckle Up" key chains be purchased to be handed out with informational flyers at Heritage Day.
ACTION	Will research with Marlboro and Southborough Police Departments regarding the Click It or Ticket Program. Dr. Fazen will speak with the Chief in Southborough about what the Board of Health can do to assist their campaign.
PENDING	Report back at a board meeting.

TOPIC	Andy Gleckel received a letter from The New England Center for Children thanking MRC/CERT for assistance at Walk/Run for Autism. They included a donation to the MRC/CERT as a thank you.
Emergency Preparedness	
ACTION	Ms. Sacco will write a letter of congratulations to Mr. Gleckel from all three board members.

TOPIC	Mr. Pisinski told the board members that he had recently read a book, "End to Over Eating", which said that people need to be made aware of the causes and reasons they eat. The author, David Kesler, suggests that the health industry should take the same tact on food that they have taken on tobacco, with helps to stop.
Wellness & Obesity	One member reported that the "boot camp" that began in Southborough has moved beyond this town. A Southborough woman is holding a "boot camp" in Seabury, MA on the Cape

TOPIC	WISCAD
DISCUSSION	Members were told that WISCAD has a new chairman and is quite well balanced now. The new chair is looking into other purchasers of water from the MWRA. They are now generating all the electricity that is used at the MWRA. It is expected that WISCAD will be taking a broad view on water issue; usage and

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	abuses.
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TOPIC	NOTIFICATION OF ACTIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS & PENDING ITEMS
DISCUSSION	<p>Management Summit: Members and Public Health Director will be attending this session on such items as procedures for public hearings, executive sessions, and personal liability on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 6:30 PM. The summit is hosted by the Board of Selectmen.</p> <p>Dr. Timothy P. Stone Award: Andy Gleckel has been contacted regarding creating a plaque for the Board of Health as was as an individual award to be presented to each recipient. His estimate for a Board of Health plaque that should be large enough to work for 10 years was \$300. An individual award to each individual recipient should cost about \$50 to \$80 per recipient.</p> <p>September 9, 2009 Meeting to discuss possible OC for all rental property in Southborough: Along with town inspectors, the board would like to have Town Counsel invited to discuss the legal issues with regards to this possible regulation.</p>
ACTION	The board members voted to give Dr. Fazen the authorization to continue looking into the plaque and award and requesting that Ms. Chamberlin speak with the marketing individual in the MRC on how to “sell” this program and receive nominations.
PENDING	Request of Town Administrator to allow Town Counsel to attend the September 9, 2009 meeting of the Board of Health, and her response

TOPIC	HOUSING COMPLAINTS
DISCUSSION	<p>98 Southville Rd. – Mr. Costello has called the tenant and will be working with the landlord at resolving the issues.</p> <p>188 Cordaville Rd. – The landlord e-mailed a paper from the electrician stating that the electrical issues are resolved; the mason has said that the chimney is okay and Rotor Rooter sent a bill indicating that the drainpipe is clear. Mr. Costello also spoke with the realtor selling the house for the landlord and answered questions about the issues that have been addressed at the property.</p>

TOPIC	BUDGET
DISCUSSION	Mr. Pisinski explained to the members why this department is turning back the large sum of money that it is. He advised that he has to budget extra money in the Contracted Services Line Item, an estimate in the total number of hours that we may need Dennis Costello if testing and construction gets busy or if Mr. Pisinski is not available. Also Mrs. Luther is quite careful with the Office line items watching what she spends.

Respectfully submitted by: Barbara M. Luther, Administrative Assistant.