

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
November 5, 2008

The meeting convened at 1:05 PM. Present were Chairman Louis Fazen, III, Members Nancy A. Sacco and Richard H. Seder, Public Health Director Paul C. Pisinski, Public Health Nurse Leslie Chamberlin, Sanitary Inspector Dennis Costello and Administrative Assistant Barbara M. Luther.

The minutes of both the August 20th and September 29, 2008 meetings were approved with some corrections. There was no October meeting.

Opening Statement from Board Chairman and Members - in response to the election results

Dr. Fazen opened the meeting by noting that the people of America have spoken about wanting change. As the Board of Health moves forward he asked the members and staff what they believe that change should be; what it will mean, and what part in this change the Southborough Board of Health might want. Dr. Seder stated that the President-elect indicated that we all will be asked to care for and watch out for our fellow man. Mrs. Sacco said that she agreed that the election was a call to action to care for our fellow man, and that this country must change. In the spirit of making things better for all the residents of this country, Dr. Fazen said how terrible the handicapped access ramp area looked. He asked that it be cleaned up, so the people with disabilities will have a more inviting entrance and feel more welcome. Dr. Seder stated that, although the doors in this facility are okay, heavy doors that are not equipped with an opening mechanism are a big problem for anyone with a disability to use in accessing buildings. Mr. Pisinski explained the history of this facility, its management and why the selectmen will only authorize a "patch" type solution for this building. Mrs. Sacco stated that there may be an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulation that the Town may be violating. Both Mr. Pisinski and Mr. Costello explained that existing structures don't have to meet the regulations. Continuing with the idea of change that is inclusive of all citizens, Dr. Fazen stated that he believes that we must look into expanding regulations and our relationship with other groups and agencies around us. We must remain open to new concepts as we continue to move forward.

Members were briefed on the agenda and any scheduled appointments.

Mr. Pisinski briefed the board members about an application for the connection of several faculty houses off of St. Marks Road to the private sewer treatment plant. He advised that he could review the plans with the board or the board could authorize Mr. Pisinski, or Mr. Costello to sign the permit. Hearing that the construction/connection required only piping, and the only pump is at the lift station, Dr. Fazen moved to authorize the professional staff to sign the permit. During discussion on the motion Dr. Seder questioned the gallons per day and if the treatment plant has sufficient capacity to take on the new effluent. Mr. Pisinski advised that the plants capacity is approximately 32,000 gallons per day. Right now the highest usage is at 15,000 and these connections will add only and approximate 3,000 gallons per day. Mr. Pisinski and Mr. Costello will check the manholes as they are flushed with water and get the reports on the pressure dose squirt tests. Dr. Seder asked if pressure dosed system have to be inspected each year, and was told that they do not, he then asked if St. Mark's has its own water supply or do they use town water. Mr. Pisinski explained that drinking water comes from the town. The only wells on St. Mark's property are for irrigation purposes only. Dr. Seder asked where the waste from the

treatment plant was expelled. Mr. Pisinski explained that the waste was dumped near the railroad tracks and that the effluent is emitted in the evening through perforated holes. There was too much plant growth taking place at the site, and it was too expensive to continue to cut the growth down, so someone suggested that the school use goats to keep the growth down. Dr. Seder then asked if the goats have access to drinking the water before it goes through the filter. Mr. Pisinski advised that he did not know and it was suggested that Mr. Pisinski or Mr. Costello give board members a tour of the site, to determine the answer. It was asked if Fay school has this same system, and Mr. Pisinski advised that they are in the process of constructing such a system. Dr. Fazen asked if the local board of health is responsible for monitoring a Ground Water Treatment Plant, Mr. Pisinski advised that they are monitored by the State DEP.

PETITIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

2:45 PM Sergeant In-Charge Jane Moran arrived to discuss issues on which the Police Department and Board of Health can work together. It is the desire of both departments to develop a protocol regarding when and how to involve each or either department in an incident. Sgt. Moran advised the board that some issues may only arise once or twice a year, or less. However, she feels that it is necessary to understand the protocol regarding when one department should call another department and who to call. Some are very delicate situations such as homes that maybe should be condemned, or a “hording” situation that need very careful responses. Issues like this may require an early intervention with a very broad approach which could include Police, Social Services, Fire Department, Building Department, Board of Health and the church. A protocol for situations such as these and others would be helpful. Dr. Fazen suggested that the starting place would be to schedule a number of meetings with police and fire personnel to discover the top 10 type of calls and begin to establish protocol around each of them. Dr. Fazen also assured Sgt. Moran that the Board of Health is looking into Public Health 24/7 coverage by using Region 4A towns. The board members and Sgt. Moran agreed that the sense of urgency to any issue would be the template of the protocol. Dr. Fazen ended this discussion saying that he would like to expand the work being done with other departments to include more town departments.

NEW BUSINESS

St. Mark’s School - Permit to Connect to Communal/Public Sewer System

3:15 Fay School – Off Site Athletic Facilities Colleen McCaw, Facilities Manager for Fay School, Robert Wednec, of Beals & Thomas and Steve Boukbend, Attorney for Fay School came to explain the athletic facilities Fay School proposes to build off Stowe Rd. at the Marlboro line. Dr. Fazen did make all at the meeting aware of the fact that he is a Stowe Rd. resident. It was explained that Fay School now owns the property to be discussed and will be obtaining demolition permits to remove the buildings on the property. Because this property consists of flat open area, and because Fay School is loosing many of its athletic fields due to the construction of their Waste Water Treatment Plant and new housing, it was decided that this property would be a good solution to the problem of athletic fields. There will be fields for baseball, soccer, lacrosse and field hockey with only one building in the north corner of the property for storage. In the future there is hope of building a football stadium, baseball stadium and two hockey rinks. The utilities for these structures will be provided through Marlboro. Sanitary facilities will be porto-potties on a solid gravel platform. There is a “stone dust area that is quite hard packed for these facilities, and is also in Marlboro. The hope is to have all

natural grass, for which three irrigation well permits have been requested from the Southborough Board of Health. These well have been drilled and the well completion reports will be sent to the board of health office. All the wells seem to have a 30 to 40 minute per inch output. Participants will have to bring their own drinking water. Mrs. Sacco asked if the town will still be able to use the Fay fields. Mr. Boukbend advised that the town would be able to use the fields especially on weekends. The board voted unanimously for the permits and will allow Mr. Pisinski to sign them.

Dr. Seder advised that he will be attending a MWRA meeting on 11/6/08 and will report about the meeting at the next Board of Health meeting.

Betterment Loan Vouchers: Mrs. Luther explained the delays/difficulties in finding a board member available to sign the Betterment Loan Agreement when a participant is ready to proceed with the loan to begin repairs of the subsurface sewage disposal system. At a previous meeting the members voted to allow Mrs. Luther to approve loan requests up to \$22,000; she is now asking to expedite the process by being given permission to sign agreements up to \$22,000 as the Board of Health Representative. She reminded the Board that she is authorized to sign vouchers only up to \$500, which means that either Board Members or the Public Health Director would be the ones to sign the majority of disbursement vouchers, and this would be a control for any concerns the board might have. It was moved and unanimously voted to allow Mrs. Luther to sign loan agreements up to \$22,000 as the Southborough Board of Health Representative.

REPORT ON CORE DIRECTIVES

Working with other Departments – Dr. Fazen reported that in an effort to educate the Police Officer on their need to be immunized, he met with them to discuss their exposure to illnesses as they act as first responders in several types of incidents. He suggested that all be immunized against Hepatitis B, C and Pertussis, etc. The members were told that the Board of Health Office received a note advising that the information was received well and believed to be accepted by the officers. The note also thanked Dr. Fazen for his time and concern for the PD.

Tobacco – Mrs. Chamberlin and Mrs. Sacco reported that they attended a seminar on Emerging Tobacco Products while they were at the MHOA Annual Convention. They reported on a relatively new device called a hookah pipe which has become a way of smoking fruity tobacco products, and is very unhealthy. This is because the sharing of the pipe, the agents of disease that are spread through the tubing and the delivery of 20% more nicotine than a cigarette. There are also hookah bars and those under 18 are not prohibited from going into a hookah bar. Even where the sale of hookahs is prohibited, they are purchased over the internet. Dr. Fazen asked how the two thought that the board should address the issue. Mrs. Sacco said that the town should find a way not to allow hookah bars in town. This may be accomplished by zoning or a Board of Health Regulation requiring proof that the bar, like a cigar bar, is a private club complete with membership rosters. It was suggested that the staff speak with Bill McClune about laws for cigar bars, and maybe have him come to a Board of Health Meeting. Mrs. Chamberlin reported that Marlboro didn't have any ordinance against cigar bars until an establishment came into town. Dr. Fazen suggested that the board alert the Planning Board that the Board of Health is looking into public health regulations to control hookah and cigar bars. The major consensus was that the public needs to be educated about the hazards of tobacco products, which also would include chewing and packing tobacco.

Emergency Preparedness – EDS Drill final discussion for Flu Clinics to be held 11/6 and EDS Flu Clinic 11/8 Mrs. Chamberlin reported on the EDS Drill which will be a part of the Nov. 8th Flu Clinic. Unfortunately one MRC nurse cancelled her participation in the drill; so Mrs. Chamberlin has one Medworks nurse and may need to hire another. Andy Gleckel will have 5 to 7 CERT volunteers to help with the drill. Mrs. Chamberlin expressed that she is very happy that the drill is being held at the Woodward School, which will be the site of our Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS), because we have now begun working with the school and this drill will help us see what or where we need to improve our planning for an event which may require an EDS. Mrs. Sacco thought that it is a good idea to combine MRC and CERT, which has never been done before, and believes that it might be a good idea to plan a meeting with the MRC/CERT for a debriefing on this activity. Mrs. Chamberlin advised the members that she is using senior year nursing students from UMass Lowell during the clinic at the Senior Center. The nurses will give shots and fill out forms as part of their Public Health experience.

NOTIFICATION OF ACTIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS & PENDING ITEMS

A. Licenses

J.J. O'Brien & Sons, Inc.	Installer	New
	One Day Food	
Yama Zakura	Est.	New
Macura Contracting, LLC	Installer	New

Septic/Wells

St Name	Applicant Name	# Bdrms/G PD	Explanation	Plan Date	Metrowet Engineering
40 Southville Rd.	Capital Group Prop.	270 GPD	New	9/26/2020	CONNORSTONE, INC.
371 Turnpike Rd.	Rosewood Construction				
68 Mt. Vickery Rd.	Robert Seales for Eric Simon	Geothermal	Well	6/18/2007	Thomas Land Surveyors

B. Continued Discussion of Signage for the Board of Health The members asked what was the status of the sign indicating that the Board of Health is now located here at 9 Cordaville Rd. Mrs. Luther advised that the Board of Selectmen have approved the style, with direction from the Building Dept. and that the process has begun but is very slow. She will report at the next meeting on what she has discovered about the progress. She will also attempt to move the process forward.

C. Continued Discussion of Tribute to Dr. Stone Dr. Fazen explained that as the board has talked about a tribute to Dr. Stone for all he has done for the Public Health of Southborough, the thought had come to the members to expand the tribute to acknowledge others for their contribution to Public Health. The award would be a Public Health Community Service Award using Dr. Stone as the model. The board could ask Andy Gleckel to make the plaque, which could be added to each year, and may include former board members as well as others who are active in public health issues. A

possible award name might be “The Dr. Timothy P. Stone Award for Outstanding Public Health Service to the Community of Southborough”. Mr. Pisinski will speak with Dr. Stone to see if he would be willing to accept such an award.

BUDGET: The board members discussed the transition that the Board of Health is going through as a result of several new responsibilities involving public health and the changes in the staff composition. The desire of the board members is to use these changes to develop new and more cost effective ways of managing the responsibilities presented to the Board of Health. They are working on a Professional Administrative Agent position with a job description that would have to be approved by the Personnel Board and voted on at a Town Meeting. Russ Millholland, a member of the Personnel Board has agreed to meet with members of the board and staff on November 25, 2008 to discuss how the different positions might interact to efficiently meet the needs of Southborough.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Barbara M. Luther, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health