

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – November 6, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Kellard, at the Senior Center Conference Room at 7:00 P.M. with the reading of the public notice, posted by the Town Clerk. Also in attendance were:; Edmund Kowalski, Member; Martha Swindell, Member; Peter Mirandi, Director of Public Health; Mark Carleo, Public Health Inspector; Jean Marcotti, Animal Care Specialist; Tracy Camarro, Public Health Nurse and Marian Myers, Epidemiologist.

ADMINISTRATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 2, 2008

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of October 2, 2008.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

LICENSING & PERMITS

Carleo reported the following permits have been issued since the October 2 meeting:

Type	Monthly Since Last Meeting (10/02/08)	YTD Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Body Art (Indv.)	0	0
Body Art (Est.)	0	0
Disposal Works	0	0
Food Est.	1	10
Funeral Dir.	0	0
Mass Est	0	0
Motels	1	0
Pools	0	30
Rec Camps	0	4
Septage Haulers	0	2
Tanning Est.	0	0
Man Housing	0	0
Wells	0	0

Total	2	46

FOOD SAFETY FORUM

Carleo informed the Board that the first Danvers Food Safety Forum was held on October 7, 2008 and was a tremendous success. Representatives from the USFDA and MDPH were in attendance. Topics covered included the Five Foodborne Illness Risk Factors and Key Public Health Interventions. The feedback was positive on the event and future forums are in the early stages of planning.

MOTEL 6

Mirandi informed the Board that Carleo, Marcotti, Mirandi and our pest control contractor recently inspected Motel 6 prior to issuing their permit. A review of the procedures for bed bugs was inspected carefully but their policy was sound and acted upon appropriately. Their policy for housing animals such as dogs was reviewed as well. Marcotti advised them that all dogs must be licensed and vaccinated and the Motel is responsible for demanding evidence of this. They agreed to comply with the requirement. In sum, no threat to public health was noted.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE'S REPORT

Nurse Camarro informed the Board the first flu clinic held on October 24th at North Shore Community College was successful. Approximately 490 vaccinations were provided. Additionally, 60 more doses were provided at a clinic held at Town Hall. Future plans include two more clinics at the Senior Center, a clinic at each public school and possibly meals on wheels, although no interest was expressed by the participants of that program.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST REPORT

Epidemiologist Myers gave the monthly disease investigation report.

The following diseases have been reported since the October 2nd meeting:

	Since Last Meeting (10/02/08)	Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Aeromonas Hydrophilia	0	0
Babesiosis	0	0
Campylobacter Enteritis	0	0
Chicken Pox	0	0
Clostridium	0	0
Cryptosporidium	0	2
Dengue Fever	0	0
EColi 0157:H7	0	0
Ehrlichiosis	0	0
Erlichia Chaff.	0	0
Enterovirus	0	0
Giardiasis	0	3
Group A Strept	0	0
Group B Strept	0	0
Hepatitis A	0	1
Hepatitis B	0	2
Hepatitis C	0	4
Influenza	0	0
Latent TB Infection	0	0
Legionellosis	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	11
M.R.S.A.	0	0
Aseptic Meningitis	0	0
Bacterial Meningitis	0	0
Nisseria Meningitis	0	0
Pertussis	0	0
Pneumonia	1	1
Salmonellosis	3	6

Shigellosis	0	0
Streptococcus pneumonia	1	3
Toxoplasma IGG	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	0
Tuberculosis follow up	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0
Yersinia Enterocolytica	0	0

TOTAL =	5	33

ANIMAL CONTROL

STRAYS IN NEED

Marcotti reported that they have only adopted out 8 cats since the last meeting but are receiving 4 calls per day from individuals who wish to give up their pets.

A recent fundraising walk was held and 600 dollars was raised.

RABIES REPORT

One dog bite occurred since the last meeting.

PEST CONTROL

No report on pest control was available at this time.

TOBACCO CONTROL

Mirandi informed the Board that in the last round of compliance checks three establishments violated. Two of the establishments will receive 30 day permit suspensions and be ordered to appear at the next meeting to explain their actions. Joyce Redford of Tobacco Control Program will be in attendance as well.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Carleo reported that the LEPC continues to study the current Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. At the next few meetings, LEPC will work to draft a chemical storage by-law.

OTHER BUSINESS

DUMPSTER REGULATION

This item was continued at the previous meeting in order to provide anyone an opportunity to opine on the proposed "Dumpster Regulations." However, no person was present for the discussion. Mirandi provided the Board with an e-mail from Ellie Ross who wished to clarify her previous e-mail on the subject. At the request of the Chairman, Carleo helped to answer Ross' concerns. Carleo began by

stating that “Person” is defined by the regulation and includes any individual or corporation. This is common among all of our regulations. Additionally, this was not Carleo’s interpretation, but rather what he had himself added to the regulation with the intent that it be applicable to the hauling companies. The reference to MGL Chapter 111, Sections 31A and 31B, from which the authority for this regulation is drawn makes clear what the scope of this regulation entails. Additionally, under section III Scope it states the regulations shall not apply to “Any receptacle with a volume of less than 49 gallons” (as anything less is typical for a dwelling) and “Recyclable materials.” Finally on this point, the average homeowner is incapable of installing, maintaining or emptying a dumpster. This requires specialized equipment and training. Next, Ross inquired as to the surveillance. Where Carleo had previously reported that “the sites will not be routinely monitored” and that it will “serve to expedite any investigation” meant that when complaints of trash blowing through the streets, foul odors or increased rodent sightings, often difficult situations to resolve, having information on file which states where the nearest dumpsters and portable toilets are will eliminate a portion of the investigation and eliminate any guesswork on the part of environmental health staff. It also puts information on who the responsible party is right at the Inspector’s fingertips. There are simply too many dumpsters to inspect each one routinely. Carleo emphatically agreed with Ross that under penalties “each day shall constitute a separate violation” must be added and was grateful Ross had noticed this omission. This is in the final draft of the regulation. As to whether or not this is an environmental health issue or a cleanliness and appearance issue, Carleo reminded the Board that their authority under MGL Chapter 111 states that they are to investigate and cause to remove sources of filth and causes of sickness. All actions taken and regulations adopted must be developed with this charge in mind in order for them to be valid (MGL Chapter 111, Section 31 – “reasonable health rule”). However, swift action by Environmental Health Staff acting under this regulation will likely produce not just the benefit of a healthier community, but possibly a more appealing one. Finally, Carleo recommended that sharps remain intact in the regulation. As this is a regulation of an industry that trains its employees on handling sharps as it is an occupational hazard, no clarification would be needed. It is included in the definition of infectious waste and reference to a separate regulation (105 CMR 480) is made. Mirandi and the Chairman believed sharps were acceptable as is.

The Board believed that with the few minor amendments needed, the regulation should be adopted on December 4th. Carleo thanked them for their hard work and will begin to prepare the applications.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo, CEHT
Board of Health Clerk