

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – September 24, 2009

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: Martha Swindell, Member; Edmund Kowalski, Member, Peter Mirandi, Director of Public Health; Mark Carleo, Public Health Inspector Tracy Camarro, Public Health Nurse and Marian Myers, Epidemiologist. Excused was Jean Marcotti, Animal Care Specialist.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Swindell requested that the minutes be amended to reflect resolution of 61 Nichols and 4 Buxton issues. Mirandi suggested this would be improper as the resolution came after the meeting. This month's meeting will reflect the resolution of those issues and the minutes were accepted as written.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

LICENSING & PERMITS

Carleo reported the following permits have been issued since the June meeting:

Type	Monthly Since Last Meeting (8/13/09)	YTD Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Body Art (Indv.)	0	1
Body Art (Est.)	0	1
Disposal Works	0	0
Food Est.	0	223
Funeral Dir.	0	0
Mass Est	0	0
Motels	0	0
Pools	0	33
Rec Camps	0	4
Septage Haulers	0	3
Tanning Est.	0	1
Man Housing	0	0
Wells	0	0

Total	0	266

Also present was Michael Purdy who is seeking licensure as a Body Art Practitioner. Carleo reminded the Board that he was licensed in this Town previously and his application and supporting documents meet the standards set forth in the Health Regulation of Body Art. On that recommendation, the Board granted Mr. Purdy a license.

PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH VIOLATIONS/NUISANCE INVESTIGATIONS

Carleo reported the following investigations have been conducted since the April 2nd meeting:

Type	Monthly Since Last Meeting (8/13/09)	YTD Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
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Air Quality	0	2
Animal Control	0	3
Bathing	0	10
Food Safety	1	21
General Env. Health	1	6
Housing	17	147
Hazardous Waste	0	5
Institutional Sanitation	0	3
Pest Control	4	18
Solid Waste	2	21
Waste Water	2	6
Water	0	0

Total	27	242

PUBLIC HEARING: SHERWOOD AVENUE

The resident who had requested a public hearing to appeal an order issued under Chapter II of the State Sanitary Code had withdrawn her request for a hearing just prior to the meeting.

UPDATE: 39 CHASE STREET

Since the last meeting the owner of 39 Chase Street; Mrs. Champlin, has made some upgrades to the property including landscaping work. Additionally, staff coordinated an interior inspection with the owner. Following the inspection an additional order to correct was issued based on observations. Mirandi and Carleo met with Senior Services Director Pamela Parkinson and Champlin to go over options. The following week, Mirandi and Carleo met with Diane Norris and Champlin. During this meeting, Champlin announced her intention to sell the property. Norris offered to contact Marsha Donovan of Donovan and Donovan to represent Champlin. Subsequently, the office was contacted by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Community Sanitation with a complaint referred from the Inspector General. We informed DPH of our activities and they agreed that we were taking action. The Chairman allowed several residents in the audience to speak on the matter. Resident Kennedy expressed concerns about “toxic air” and “spontaneous combustibles.” Mirandi referred questions about fire and explosions to the Fire Department. This resident asked about dry plumbing traps and asserted the house is filling with explosive sewer gas. Mirandi stated he was in the dwelling and smelled no sewer gasses, but access to the plumbing fixtures could not be had in any case due to the accumulation of rubbish. Resident asked about an oil tank that leaked in 1998. Mirandi agreed he will discuss with the Fire Department the following day. Resident Dunphy expressed gratitude for progress and case moving forward.

TOBACCO CONTROL

The school committee created a new policy for smoking off of school grounds which may include fines as a method of enforcement. Tom Murray and Peg Salliday were present from the School Department. Joyce Redford and DJ Wilson from North Shore Tobacco Control and MDPH respectively were present. This change in policy was made after the school began to receive complaints from neighbors regarding students smoking at curbside and leaving cigarettes on the ground. The school committee attempted to address complaints by making it more difficult for students to smoke. Smoking is considered an impediment to education. The new policy was based on advice from DPH. Redford and Wilson clarified that the Board’s authority, extended to the schools for the purpose of issuing fines cannot be used on a public way whether or not the school determines paths to and from the school are considered school grounds. Murray stated the fine is a secondary enforcement mechanism. Kellard

requested that the school not use fines off of immediate school property in order to avoid any legal troubles for the Board of Health. Murray agreed.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES REPORT

Camarro reported that we have received a portion of our seasonal flu vaccine allotment of 1060 doses. Clinics have been run on Mondays and Tuesdays by appointment at the Senior Center. Wait times of only two minutes are the norm. Schools have been vaccinated as well. Friday October 9th is our first scheduled large scale flu clinic, subject to change. Low turnout is expected due to the previously mentioned appointments. Mirandi credited Camarro with re-inventing how we administer vaccine and wished we had thought of the appointments before. Kellard stated Camarro is doing a fine job.

Day to day information from the Federal and State government changes and is very frustrating to keep track of. DPH currently says late October for vaccine. The priority for vaccine is Hospitals, private practices, substance abuse centers, prisons then BOH. DPH is supplying syringes and alcohol wipes as well. Children under 10 years old may need 2 doses. DPH guidelines will be followed.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST REPORT

Epidemiologist Meyers gave the monthly disease investigation report:

	Since Last Meeting (08/13/09)	Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Aeromonas Hydrophilia	0	0
Babesiosis	0	0
Campylobacter Enteritis	0	3
Chicken Pox	0	0
Clostridium	0	0
Cryptosporidium	0	2
Dengue Fever	0	0
EColi 0157:H7	0	0
Ehrilichiosis	0	1
Erlichia Chaff.	0	0
Enterovirus	0	0
Giardiasis	0	4
Group A Strept	0	0
Group B Strept	0	2
Hepatitis A	0	1
Hepatitis B	0	4
Hepatitis C	0	6
Influenza	0	1
Latent TB Infection	0	0
Legionellosis	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	33
M.R.S.A.	0	0
Aseptic Meningitis	0	0
Bacterial Meningitis	0	0
Nisseria Meningitis	0	0
Pertussis	0	0
Pneumonia	0	1
Salmonellosis	0	14
Shigellosis	0	0
Streptococcus pneumonia	0	12
Toxoplasma IGG	0	1
Tuberculosis	0	6

Tuberculosis follow up	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0
Yersinia Enterocolytica	0	0

TOTAL =	0	100

PEST CONTROL

Mirandi informed the Board that a case of EEE was confirmed in a mosquito pool in Peabody. Mirandi was unalarmed by this information due to the cold weather and very small populations of mosquitoes. Additionally, Carleo informed the Board that they are now using Orkin Commercial Services for pest control in public buildings. The IPM plan will be updated accordingly.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Money is currently rolling in from DPH and plans are in place for spending and equipping.

RABIES REPORT

Mirandi provided an update on the dog incident concerning Susan Nestor of Lantern Lane. Since last month, the Board of Selectmen heard the case and allowed the Nestor’s a month to resolve the issue with controlling their dog. No further action is required at this time. Mirandi also reported the following bites since the May 7 meeting:

	Since Last Meeting (08/13/09)	Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Dogs	0	4
Cats	0	0
Wild Animals	0	0

TOTAL =	0	4

With no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo, CEHT
Board of Health Clerk