

**BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – January 10, 2013**  
**Danvers Senior Center, 25 Stone Street, Danvers, MA 01923**

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Edmund Kowalski, at the Danvers Senior Center at 7:00 P.M. with the reading of the public notice, posted by the Town Clerk. Also in attendance were: Martha Swindell, Member; Peter Mirandi, Director of Public Health, Janell Powers, Clerk.

**Approval of Minutes**

Swindell moved to accept. Kowalski seconded. All were in favor.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

**Variance Request - HACCP Plan-Happy Garden Sushi, 75 High Street**

Mirandi stated that Inspector Carleo received a letter and a revised HACCP Plan. Based on Carleo's review Mirandi recommends that the Board approve the variance request.

Swindell motioned to approve the variance request. Kowalski seconded. All were in favor.

**Variance Request-Plumbing Code - Pete's-A-Place, 142 Pine Street**

Mirandi stated that Pete's-A-Place is not prepared to have this request heard and recommends that the Board table the item until the next regular meeting.

**Permits and Licensing**

Mirandi stated that only 129 Food Permits have been submitted and paid. Before the next meeting, a plan will be devised and approved administratively to improve compliance. They may expect an update at their next meeting per usual.

**Public & Environmental Health Violations/Nuisance Investigations Report**

Mirandi stated that we have received 1 no-heat issue, 1 bathing – Ferncroft Pool, 1 pest control complaint – insects at a Housing Authority property, and 1 food safety complaint – Denny's. All have been adequately addressed.

**January 6, 2013 Twin Oaks Nursing Home Report**

The Board received a formal report on the January 6, 2013 event at Twin Oaks Nursing Home. The main building sewer broke and caused an estimated 2-foot of raw sewage to back-up in the facility. Walls will be removed on the entire first floor. Mirandi stated that Carleo was on site for 8-hours and ordered the evacuation. Mirandi will forward Carleo's report to the State DPH as he feels that this was an excellent example of public health emergency response. Swindell stated it looked like they may have done all the ground work already and there was very little disruption to anyone. Mirandi concluded by informing the Board that swab testing of kitchen equipment was also conducted; the establishment shall remain closed until the problem is properly corrected.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

### **Public Health Nurse's Report**

Mirandi stated that O'Shea has been responding to the surge of requests for flu vaccine tirelessly. Of the 760 doses allotted to the Town, only 24 are left. To date, an estimated \$8000 reimbursement is due to the Town.

### **Epidemiology Report**

Mirandi provided the Board with a detailed report from MAVEN and further stated that Marian Myers reported 24 cases of influenza and 1 shigellosis since the last meeting.

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Mirandi reminded the Board that Mayor Menino has declared a public health emergency in Boston due to the number of cases of influenza. Surgical masks were briefly discussed. Hospital emergency rooms seem to be the only place utilizing them at this time.

## **SUN SAFETY**

Ruth Price will come before the Board next month with an update.

## **ANIMAL & PEST CONTROL**

### **Animal Health**

Mirandi reported one dog bite, one dog attack on another dog where the police are still involved. Strays in Need has 1 dog and 1 cat. Mirandi also stated that we still do not have an ACO but are interviewing an applicant next week.

## **TOBACCO CONTROL UPDATE**

Mirandi stated that the Tobacco Control Program will be providing information on medical marijuana dispensing as it becomes available.

## **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

### **33 Water Street Update**

Members of the public were present to hear an update from Mass DEP and US EPA officials on the status of the 33 Water Street hazardous waste site at the last meeting. The Superfund listing in the Federal Register will be in April. The remedial work was completed in November. Now the preliminary investigations and enforcement activities begin.

Mr. Kowalski asked about the Beam House. This is a containment cell on the northwest corner of the property that was constructed around 1988 to help encapsulate contaminants. The extensive hides that were buried were stabilized with mixture with concrete and epoxy. The monitoring wells show that the contamination was certainly leaching to other areas.

Mirandi asked if the condo owners were responsible. The EPA spokesperson replied no. Swindell asked if the contamination remains in the soil or leach into groundwater. The response was that there are no drinking water resources in the area.

450 tons of surface soils have been removed; 55 Clinton Avenue has been fenced off. Swindell asked about the area along the MBTA right-of-way. Mass DEP stated they have begun working with MBTA.

Mirandi asked if a timeline for the project was possible. The EPA stated that they cannot set a time frame; it can be a lengthy process.

Mirandi stated that a repository has been established at the Peabody Institute Library in Danvers for the public to view information. The EPA will do more to update the public by the end of April.

## **HOUSING**

### **152 Endicott Street**

Mirandi updated the Board and Ted Speliotis on this issue at the Days Inn. Mirandi stated that sanitary code violations have been an on-going issue and that the Town had been in Housing Court for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time with Town Counsel. As of today, 77 families including 125 children live there. Multiple families are eating, bathing, and laundering in a room that was not designed for this use. The result is chronic condensation and mold.

Speliotis stated that the court moves very slowly, and, legislation moves even slower. He added that the state pays the bill for all of these families and the Governor made a proposal to end this program by July 2014. However, Speliotis feels that it is reasonable to request that the Department of Housing and Community Development should use the funding for this program as leverage to get the Days Inn owner to cooperative. The Board welcomed the idea of Speliotis asking for assistance.

### **NS Tech and Essex Aggie Report**

Mirandi stated that he received phone calls from concerned parents that an unusually high rate of vocal tics was being observed at the Aggie and NS Tech. They believe it is environmentally induced. The Mass Department of Public Health did a similar study in Ipswich and is now involved. The Board will receive updates as necessary.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Ms. Swindell motioned to adjourn. Mr. Kowalski seconded. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Janell Powers  
Board of Health Clerk