



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
7 Main Street  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
Phone# (508) 234-3272 Fax# (508) 234-0821

*The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held July 13, 2010.*

## MEETING MINUTES - June 15, 2010

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This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Paul McKeon, Chairman. Other members present were Mr. Steve Garabedian, Mr. Chris Cella and Mr. Scott Chase. Ms. Ann Marie Thompson arrived after the reading and approval of the minutes. Also present was Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Mr. Garabedian to accept the minutes of **May 11, 2010**. Motion seconded by Mr. McKeon; the vote was 2-0 in favor; Mr. Cella and Mr. Chase abstained.

**Food Scrap Recycling Program Proposal:** Present for this meeting was Robert Rolandelli, Wal-Mart Store Manager. The Board had requested more information regarding the proposed food scrap recycling program.

Mr. Garabedian stated his concern that this would be a problem in the summer months with all this food waste “cooking” in these bins. He was also concerned on whether Wal-Mart employees would be properly trained on handling this waste so it does not create a nuisance.

Mr. Rolandelli stated that Wal-Mart is dedicated to the process of recycling. He stated that most of the food waste currently goes into the dumpster which is emptied about once every two weeks. The recycling process being proposed calls for two 4-yard containers for organic waste to be picked up every 7 days. These containers have sealed lids and are leak-proof. He stated that he believes that store personnel will be responsible for sanitizing the containers after they are emptied.

Mr. McKeon asked where the sanitizing rinse residue will go – where are these containers located and how will they be sanitized. Mr. Rolandelli was unsure. Mr. McKeon stated that at the current compactor pad there is a 1,000-gallon grease trap – he asked if the rinse water is expected to be dumped into that fixture and does that fixture have the capacity to handle this.

The Board also asked that a site plan be provided noting the location of these bins on the plan.

The Board also questioned who the hauler is that is picking up this waste and where that waste is being trucked. Mr. Rolandelli stated that he believed the company’s name was Quest. The Board stated that the correspondence that they received is from a company called EPS of Vermont. Mr. Rolandelli stated that he was unsure but believed the company was called Quest.

The Board informed Mr. Rolandelli that these questions need to be answered to their satisfaction before they can permit this operation. In reading through a DEP fact sheet, the Board noted that Stop & Shop runs this type of program. Mr. Garabedian, as he is the Health Agent for Milford where a Stop & Shop is located, stated that he would check on the operation at that facility to get a better understanding of this proposal.

**Mr. Cella motioned that a letter be sent to Wal-Mart informing them that they have NOT been approved for the placement and use of dumpster/bins for the purpose of organics recycling at this time due to lack of information. Motion seconded by Mr. McKeon; the vote was all in favor.**

**Motion made by Mr. Cella to table this discussion to the next meeting to allow for the applicant to supply additional information. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was all in favor.**

**Balmer School – Water Quality Update:** Present for this meeting was Paul Halacy, Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Northbridge Public Schools. Mr. Halacy informed the Board that they have instituted a flushing program every morning for 10-15 minutes and that they are keeping a DEP log noting the occurrence of flushing along with a custodian's signature. He stated that the most recent reports came back that the water quality is fine. Mr. Halacy stated that all drinking fountains in classrooms have been shut off and that signs have been placed in bathrooms that state water is not for consumption. There are bubblers in the gym, cafeteria and one in the hallway. There is also bottled water in the nurse's office.

Mr. McKeon asked if the bathroom water had been tested. Mr. Halacy stated that it had and that the copper and lead levels were high. Mr. McKeon suggested that those fixtures be included in the flushing program.

Mr. Cella asked what types of communications have gone out to the parents. Mr. Halacy replied that letters were sent home and that recently a ConnectEd message was sent to parents to inform them that recent water tests were acceptable. Mr. Cella asked if parents were aware of the signage posted in the bathrooms that the water is not for consumption. Mr. Halacy stated that they were not. Mr. Cella suggested that the parents be made aware of that so that they can tell their kids that they are not to drink from the bathroom sinks.

Mr. Halacy stated that the DEP has informed them that they are doing everything right in this situation and have in fact gone above and beyond what is required.

**Title 5: Carpenter Estates – 2006 Soils Testing Extension Request:** Present for this meeting was Cheryl Peterson of Heritage Design Group. Ms. Peterson was present to request an extension of soils testing done on the Carpenter Estates subdivision in 2006. She stated that the original design was for a conventional subdivision and that it has been re-designed as a cluster development allowing smaller frontage and lot requirements. Each lot is one acre. She stated that soils testing was done in 2006 and 2007 but due to the economy the project never moved forward. Ms. Peterson stated that the owner has construction bids to move forward on roadway construction now but financing is being held up because the soils testing expired.

Mr. McKeon stated that soils evaluations are valid for two years according to the Board of Health regulations and that an extension would have had to have been requested prior to the two-year expiration. He stated that these soils tests were already four years old. Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that the DEP required soils evaluation forms for each of these lots had not been provided to the office – there are no results from 2006 or 2007 from Heritage Design Group regarding this testing. Ms. Peterson provided the soils testing reports to the Board at this meeting.

Mr. McKeon stated that he did not believe that the percolation rate or groundwater determination would be different now in 2010 than it was in 2006 however, he was concerned that granting the

extension would set a precedent as current regulations indicate that these tests would only be valid for a two-year period and that an extension could only be granted if requested prior to their expiration.

Ms. Peterson stated that the Planning Board and Conservation Commission have both approved extensions for this subdivision. She stated that the Planning Board has issued its final extension. Ms. Peterson also stated that the Conservation Commission originally required placement of blasting mats at the stream crossing (required to access actual subdivision lots) in order to conduct soils testing but that they will not allow that this time and in fact will require that the roadway be constructed to access lots for testing. She stated that this is a problem because the bank won't provide financing for the project unless the soils tests are approved.

**Mr. Chase motioned that the Board will review soils testing with Malley Engineering prior to making a determination. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was 4-0 in favor. Mr. McKeon abstained.**

The owner of the property was also present, Stan Piecewicz, who apologized to the Board for not coming forward sooner on this request. He stated that it was not done intentionally and that the problem they are facing is dealing with the wetland crossing.

**VNA Contract – Fiscal Year 2011:** The Board reviewed the FY 11 contract for nursing services from the Visiting Nurse Association. The Board noted that there was no increase in the contract price from FY 10.

**Motion to accept the FY 2011 VNA contract was made by Mr. Cella. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was 4-0 in favor; Mr. McKeon abstained.**

**Flavors of Rock Festival – One Day Food Permit Applications:** The Board reviewed several applications for One-Day food permits at the Flavors of Rock Festival scheduled to be held on June 26, 2010 at the American Legion in Rockdale. The event is from 2-10 PM. The Board discussed the volume of potentially hazardous foods that are being proposed and their concern over hot-holding, cold-holding, cold storage, and hand-washing facilities for such a long event.

**Motion made by Mr. Cella to deny one-day food permit applications requested by Nonnie Roses, Thai Hut, and Daniel Davis as there are too many variables that can lead to a foodborne illness outbreak. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was all in favor.**

**The Board approved one-day food permits for Candy Cottage, Brett Costa (Italian Ice), and P&W Sweets.**

**Tobacco Sales Permit Renewals:** Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that she is processing the annual renewals of Tobacco Sales Permits. The DOR license which typically expires on June 30<sup>th</sup> has been extended to September 30<sup>th</sup> so the new licenses will be sent with a notice that they must send the Board their 2010-2012 DOR license before the end of September or face suspension of their Northbridge Tobacco Sales Permit.

**Youth Access Compliance Checks:** Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that youth access compliance checks were conducted on May 12<sup>th</sup> – all Northbridge establishments were compliant.

**Old & New Business:** Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that DEP is requesting additional landfill gas monitoring at the **Quaker Street Landfill** before they make a determination on our request for reduced monitoring. BETA Group is conducting another round of tests today, June 15<sup>th</sup>, and will supply those results to the Board and DEP.

Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that a resident of **Spruce Street** is having water quality issues. Information relative to this matter from the Northbridge Building Department was disseminated to the Board. This resident is not filing a complaint at this time but wanted to be sure the Board was aware of the problem. It appears that an electrical current is causing excessive corrosion of the copper tubing which is then leaching into the drinking water supply of several homes in this area. The resident is having the water tested at Microbac Labs in Worcester. Ms. Gniadek instructed the resident to forward those results to our office.

Mr. McKeon informed the Board that he had received a complaint that the property at **1700 Hill Street** was being sandblasted. He stated that this is a very old dwelling and likely contains lead paint. Mr. Chase stated that there are also new EPA regulations governing renovations of these types of properties. The Board instructed Ms. Gniadek to follow up with the appropriate agencies.

**Correspondence:** The following correspondence was distributed to the Board:

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness – Region 2 – Purchase of jackets for Public Health personnel
- 2009 Annual Report of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Program

*There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 8:50 PM was made by Mr. Cella and seconded by Ms. Thompson – all in favor.*

*Attested by,*

*Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrative Assistant*