

NORTH ATTLEBORO BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes of
December 10, 2007 6:30 pm

In attendance: Don Bates, Chairman; John Donohue Jr., Member; Susan Shaw, Member and Robert Davis, Agent.

Visitors: Aung Tun (Hola Mexican Grilled Chicken); Nancy Gomes; David White, owner of 39 Colburn Street and the tenant at that address, Ann-Marie Dubeau

Chairman Bates opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

LICENSES:

Mr. Aung Tun appeared and answered the Members' questions re: his request for a Food Service license.

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to grant a Food Service license for Hola Mexican Grilled Chicken at the Emerald Square Mall. Ms. Shaw seconded. Some discussion, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

Nancy Gomes appeared and answered the Members' questions re: her request for a Massage Therapist license.

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to grant a Massage Therapist license to Nancy Gomes to work at Elizabeth Grady Salon, 16 East Washington Street. Ms. Shaw seconded. Some discussion, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

HEARING REQUEST:

39 Colburn Street

Mr. David White had requested a hearing before the Board regarding an Emergency Order to correct the co-mingling of electricity at his 39 Colburn Street property. In his presentation to the Members, Mr. White expressed concern that he was being unfairly characterized and singled out by the Health Department's action in this case, whereupon considerable discussion ensued. This property owner has yet to correct the co-mingling condition first alleged and then verified by his 2nd floor tenant, and argued that the Health Department's Emergency Order was unclear.

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to give Mr. White one of two options: (1) correct the co-mingling of electricity by hiring a Massachusetts licensed electrician to correct the problem by December 14, 2007, or; (2) submit three letters of an agreement signed by each of the tenants in the property stating that they will allow the co-mingling of electricity to the Board of Health office by December 14, 2007 at 4 PM. Ms. Shaw seconded. More discussion ensued, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

BREAK:

Mr. Donohue requested a break at 7:40 PM and the Board returned to continue the meeting at 7:45 PM.

MINUTES:

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to accept the minutes of November 26, 2007. Ms. Shaw seconded. Some discussion, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

HEALTH NURSE'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2007:

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to accept the Health Nurse's Monthly Report as written. Ms. Shaw seconded. Some discussion, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

HEALTH AGENT'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2007:

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to accept the Health Agent's Monthly Report as written. Ms. Shaw seconded. Some discussion, all in favor, motion passes 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Flu Clinic/Emergency Preparedness Exercise

The Members noted the flu clinic that took place December 1st at the North Attleboro High School was very well organized in thanks to both Anne Marie Fleming and Robert Davis. In addition to exercising the Health Department's Emergency Preparedness plans, over 1,100 citizens were processed through the High School set up as an Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) and vaccinated in just two hours.

Human Services Position

The Members attended last week's Selectmen's meeting looking for their support for a Board of Health article to be submitted in 2008 that would finally establish a Human Services position for the Town. In the discussion, it was also suggested that the Members put together a fifteen minute program for North TV on the many things the Health Department is required to do and why a Human Services office should be established to provide the full range of social services needed in a Town of this size.

MEETINGS:

There is a special town meeting on January 28, 2008. One of the Board of Health meetings for January will need to be changed to January 14, 2008.

SUBDIVISION REVIEWS:

The Members expressed disappointment that the Planning Board continues to move forward approving subdivisions without addressing Board of Health comments and concerns raised through professional engineering reports like Mill River Consulting's report on the Cushman Village project. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Donohue asked: 1) which development was it that the Planning Board went against the Board of Health's recommendation not to grant it approval as proposed; 2) which consulting firm did the work in that case, and; 3) What was the Town Counsel's written opinion with respect to the Planning Board's action in that case, if any? The Members also discussed asking MHOA's legal counsel, Cheryl Sbarra to send a letter to Town Counsel on the issue, with copies to each of the Board Members. Mr. Bates agreed to draft such a letter for the Board and have Mr. Davis forward it to Atty. Sbarra.

COMPLAINT LOG:

11 Summer Street

A bench warrant has been issued for Trent Davis, owner of 11 Summer Street, who failed to appear at his last court hearing the week before regarding his non-compliance with multiple housing issues at this property.

145 Broad Street

At Town Counsel's recent request, Mr. Davis has provided him with a street address for the current owner of the apartment complex at 145 Broad Street, in order that Counsel may also serve this owner with papers to appear in court for non-compliance with orders to correct housing issues at his North Attleboro property.

65 Fisher Street

Recently, the owner of this property requested a hearing before the Board seeking a waiver of one of the most expensive violations to correct, and through his lawyer pledged to submit a copy of the contract he had struck to replace all the windows in this apartment, one of the most significant public health conditions in the list of violations cited. Although the Board granted the waiver requested, the window replacement contract has yet to be produced. The owner's attorney reports that the window contract will be delivered to the Health Department by Friday.

Lowe's

Mr. Davis still needs to write letters to the businesses surrounding Lowe's in an effort to locate the source of, and/or ultimately discontinue, the objectionable night noise that continues to occur at random and disturb the adjacent neighborhood.

NEW BUSINESS:

CATV at the Electric Department

The Members agreed that North TV may start video-taping Board of Health meetings for cable broadcasting starting in January 2008.

Grant for Board Development

Marcia Benes has been awarded a grant for Board development on behalf of several towns who had expressed interest in participating, including North Attleboro. The grant would be used primarily to fund the hiring of a facilitator who will help the participating Boards go through the ten standards that the National Association of local boards of health would like them to follow over the next decade.

ADJOURN:

MOTION made by Mr. Donohue to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. Seconded by Ms. Shaw. No discussion, motion passes 3-0.