

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Approved**  
**April 22, 2008**  
**Groton Town Hall, Groton, Massachusetts**

Board of Health Members Present:

Jason Weber, Chairman; Dr. Susan Horowitz; Robert Hanninen

Others Present:

Debra Butcher

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Weber called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Septic Permits Signed/Approved:

\*28 Townsend Road, Chris Broughton

\*102 Joy Lane; Hartwright Co.

Bills Signed/Approved:

\*E&R Cleaners-\$27.59

\*E&R Cleaners-\$26.51

\*Poland Springs-\$9.44

\*Verizon (SW)-\$18.41

\*Verizon Long Distance (SW)-\$.05

\*Verizon Wireless (SW)-\$33.40

\*Verizon (BOH)-\$40.76

\*Verizon Long Distance (BOH)-\$.28

\*Community Healthlink (Herbert Lipton)-\$1625.00

100 Whitman Road Present: Sean O'Neill

Mr. O'Neill requested approval for a new installation of an outdoor wood fire furnace on his property at 100 Whitman Road. He provided an application and a sketch plan as required by Section 9.2 of the regulations. He stated that the property, with frontage on Whitman Road, is located on 100 acres and consists of mostly an apple orchard. He said that there is over 1000 feet to the nearest property. Debra Butcher stated that the application was reviewed by Health Agent Ira Grossman and initialed for his approval.

Member Horowitz stated that she is familiar with the elevation of the property. Mr. O'Neill stated that the house is over 435 feet on top of the hill. Member Horowitz questioned whether trees would be cut for use in the stove. Mr. O'Neill stated "yes".

Chairman Weber questioned whether Mr. O'Neill had looked at any indoor wood furnaces. Mr. O'Neill stated that he had and that they didn't provide the same capacity needed for heating. He said that the model he was considering was from new technology and virtually "smokeless".

Member Hanninen questioned how the unit would keep the smoke low. Mr. O'Neill stated that he wasn't sure how it worked but it was no bigger than a fireplace and logs burned in a separate chamber which is where the heat came from. Mr. O'Neill stated

that he explored all models directly from the manufacturer's website and that this model was best suited for his site. He said that it was not his intention to upset his neighbors but only to install a responsible mechanism to heat his home.

Member Horowitz reviewed the sketch plan to see where abutters were. She questioned why abutters were not notified. Mr. O'Neill stated that abutters were well over 1000 feet away.

Discussion followed concerning the regulations as they relate to abutter notifications. Member Horowitz stated that she was concerned that abutters were not notified and would consider reopening the regulations concerning Section 9.1. She said that neighbors were far enough away from the installation but if there were any complaints, the Board would review this again.

Member Horowitz stated that she was a major proponent of abutters being notified. She asked that the Board discuss this further when Health Agent Ira Grossman was present at the next meeting in May.

Member Hanninen made a motion to approve the permit application and to grant a variance from Section 9.1 because the unit was being proposed for a site over 500 feet to the nearest abutter. The motion was seconded by Member Horowitz.

VOTE: Member Horowitz-Aye; Chairman Weber-Aye; Member Hanninen-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Nashoba Paddler Rivercamp – 2008 Renewal Variance

The Board voted unanimously to grant the following variance:

##### 105 CMR 430.370: Toilet Facilities Required

The operator of each recreational camp for children shall provide at least two toilets or privy seats for each sex, and:

1. For each camp other than a day camp where the number of persons of one sex is in excess of 20, the operator shall provide one additional toilet or privy seat for each additional ten persons or fraction thereof of that sex.
2. At a day camp where the number of persons of one sex is in excess of 60, the operator shall provide one additional toilet or privy seat for each additional 30 persons or fraction thereof of that sex.

The Nashoba Paddler proposes to offer a porto-potty with hand washing facilities at the beginning and end of the day at the facilities' base for the day camps. During the course of the day, Nashoba Paddler will provide a porto-potty which will be used for emergencies.

The Board required that Nashoba Paddler submit monthly pumping records to the Board of Health office.

#### Transfer Station – Proposed Price Increase Present: Bruce Dubey

Mr. Dubey requested the Board's support in increasing prices at the Transfer Station in sticker and bag fees as well as in disposal fees (see attached). He stated that the Board needs to recommend the price increase to the Board of Selectmen for a public hearing.

Discussion followed concerning increasing bag prices proportionally. The Board supported the price increase by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH

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Jason Weber, Chairman

Dr. Susan Horowitz

Robert Hanninen

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra Butcher