

MEETING MINUTES  
Approved  
May 19, 2008  
Town Hall, Groton, Massachusetts

Board of Health Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Debra Butcher

Meeting called to order:

Chairman Weber called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes:

The Board approved the minutes of April 7, 2008 as amended and the minutes of April 22, 2008 as written. The Board tabled the minutes of May 5, 2008.

Septic Permit Signed/Approved:

\*Forest Drive, Lot B47; Robert Lacombe

\*Arbor Way, Lot 27; Landwest Inc.

Bills Signed/Approved:

\*Advance Security Systems-\$18.33

\*Airgas-\$26.10

\* Airgas-\$156.00

\*Poland Springs-\$9.44

\*Verizon (SW)-\$18.92

\*Verizon Long Distance (SW)-\$.20

\*Covanta-\$8,207.69

\*E.L. Harvey-\$5,479.65

\*East Coast Electronics-\$650.00

\*Verizon (BOH)-\$37.13

\*Verizon Long Distance (BOH)-\$.13

Public Hearing – Price Increase – Transfer Station - Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen:

Present: Board of Health; Bruce Dubey; Recycling Committee; Jim Selders; members of the public & press

The Board of Health presented a proposal for price increases on transfer station stickers, trash bags and miscellaneous disposal items to be effective on July 1, 2008. The Board of Selectmen felt that the price increases were nominal and voted unanimously to support them.

Recycling Committee Present: Bruce Dubey; Tessa David; Michael Brady; Ed Wirtanen; Jim Selders, Computer Committee member

Recycling Chairman Tessa David reported that the town would be conducting its first paint collection day on May 31<sup>st</sup>. She indicated that a portion of this cost was being subsidized by the town and felt that an increase in paint disposal was warranted.

Member Horowitz stated that the Board should table this until FY10 budget planning and increase the charge per resident to offset the cost. Member Hanninen agreed and stated that the Board should leave this alone due to the budget issues that currently exist.

Ms. David felt that the paint collection should be self sustaining and that it was her recommendation to increase disposal to \$4 per gallon of paint.

Discussion followed concerning increasing the cost. The Board recommended that the Recycling Committee survey residents who attend the May 31<sup>st</sup> collection on how residents would feel about a small increase and report back those findings at the next meeting on June 2, 2008.

On another subject, Ms. David explained that an entry for paint was erroneously deducted from the Hazardous Waste account and an adjustment in the amount of \$1986 needed to be transferred into the solid waste expenses. Member Hanninen made a motion to make the correction with the Accounting Department. The motion was unanimous.

Resident Jim Selders made a proposal that the Board look to eliminate the requirement for annual transfer station renewals and increase the cost of trash bags only. He felt that the Board should evaluate that data and crunch the numbers to find more ways to generate revenue. The Board recommended that Mr. Selders work with the Recycling Committee and present their proposal to the Board.

Academy Hill Present: Cathy Netburn, Esq.

Attorney Netburn stated that she was representing her client, Bruce Wheeler and thanked the Board for allowing her to speak without being on the agenda.

She stated that she is awaiting the Board's approval on septic permit for a parcel (Lot A) and were finalizing the condominium documents for town counsel review. She stated that her client is anxious to begin construction and requested that the Board approval the permits with the condition that occupancy is held up until such time that the condo documents were approved by town counsel.

Member Horowitz stated that she would not approve the permits until such time that their Health Agent was present and that this should wait until the next meeting. Member Hanninen asked how difficult was it to her client to allow town counsel to review the document. Ms. Netburn stated that Kopelman & Paige often takes time in their review cycle and her client wanted to move forward quickly on construction.

Chairman Weber suggested that the Board and the applicant find common ground. He recommended that the Board have a special (5) minute meeting once the documents were reviewed. Member Hanninen stated that he didn't want to hold up the applicant and would be willing to approve the permits subject to the condition. The Board requested that Ms. Butcher contact Town Counsel by 8am on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and report back to the Board to schedule a special session.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lyme Disease Discussion

Ms. Butcher reported that the signs have been ordered and everything was in place for Lyme Awareness week.

Summer Meeting Schedule

The Board agreed to continue meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month through the summer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH

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Jason Weber, Chairman

Dr. Susan Horowitz

Robert Hanninen

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra A. Butcher