

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, August 24, 2011 – 5:30 pm – Downstairs Meeting Room - Town Hall, One Avenue A,
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Chris Boutwell, Jay DiPucchio, Michael Nelson - Chair, Gina McNeely, Director Public Health

- **Review Minutes: June 15, 2011 Minutes.**

Jay DiPucchio motioned to accept the June 15, 2011 Meeting Minutes. This motion was seconded by Michael Nelson. Approval of June 15, 2011 Minutes passes.

- **Directors Report for June and July 2011 Highlights:**

- Housing

- Monica Barry 74 Turnpike Road – electrical capacity inspection
- 6 Bridge Street – 2 large dogs abandoned place condemned upon inspection. Waiting for the reinspection (\$50.00 charge for a re-inspection after the initial re-inspection) date. No communication at this point.
- 308 Montague City Road – Rodents and electrical issues
- 286 Montague City Road - Housing Inspection 2 children under age of 6 living there.
- Gina received a Lead Determinator license
- Second and Third Street – mattress and furniture
- 74 Turnpike Rd – Emergency inspection and condemnation of 2nd floor apartment. Heavy rain inundated the apartment
- 57A Old Sunderland Road – Owner of property in to complain that tenant is overloading hose spigot and covering up an area that needs to ventilate
- 301 East Chestnut Hill Road – 2 Maremma's and 1 Great Pyrenees dog threatening pedestrians and biting
- 216 Wendell Road – Worst tenant caused conditions of filth at this property. Order to correct to landlord and tenant.
- 3 Wolcott Street – Lake Pleasant was condemned almost ready to move back in after a lot of work and effort on behalf of many.

- Reinspections

- Thomas Memorial Golf Club - president contacted regarding club
- 216 Wendell Road - Illegal camper and lots of trash and debris
- 308 Montague City Road – passed a section 8 housing inspection a week before Gina's visit.
- 88 South Prospect Street – waiting to get some resolution
- 21 Franklin Street
- 57 A Old Sunderland Road

- Food

- Grumpy's Food Cart – closed
- Countree Creamee- inspected
- Food City - inspected
- Mutton and Mead Festival - inspected
- Yelena's - inspected
- Eddie's Ice Cream – Ding Dong Cart- collaborated with other BOH

Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

- g. Virginia Crowell – St. Andrew’s Church – Pumpkinfest
- h. Laurel Guy – Big Brother’s Big Sister – Pumpkinfest
- i. Arthur Evans – Home business including food
- j. Hattapon’s Kitchen and “Best Balls in Turners Falls” – Pumpkinfest
- k. Communication of Mutton and Mead festival – cooking rabbit and pork over a spit fire and serving it. If it happens next year Gina to work with Mick
- Title 5
 - a. Anonymous complaint about 349 Federal Street
 - b. 177 Ripley Road
 - c. 475 Turners Falls Road – Septic repair
- Other
 - a. Contacted EPA and DEP – Trains
 - b. 17 Grove Street
 - c. Pam Am trains
 - d. Regionalization possibilities
 - e. Steve Rapp – EPA to arrange meeting about the idling trains
 - f. Attended NACCHO conference
 - g. Don Miller – walk in regarding 74 Turnpike Road
 - h. 301 East Chestnut Hill Road – discussion with victim and rabies protocol issues
 - i. Applied for FDA grant – retail food standards \$2,500 (\$500 for instruments/tools of the trade)
- Dog
 - a. Beagle killed by Chocolate Lab – Turners Falls no more information on this incident at this time.

How to handle the workload and the specialized skills, resources needed to do the jobs within the Department. How can you/we prioritize tasks, complaints, inspections when everything is crucial?

Jay DiPucchio motioned to accept the Directors Report for June. This was seconded by Chris Boutwell. Approval of Directors Report passes.

Chris Boutwell motioned to accept the Directors Report for July. This was seconded by Jay DiPucchio. Approval of Directors Report passes.

- **Hearing 57A Old Sunderland Road – Shauna Lynn, Occupant**

Present: Shauna Lynn

Gina is responding to a complaint from the landlord regarding 57A Old Sunderland Road.

The faucet is leaking it is believed that the other hose is on all the time – over use. Shauna and the neighbors have restraining orders against each other which is why the hose is set up like that.

The other factor is that the ventilation fan is blocked off. The owner of the property brought in all the receipts showing the work that had been done to prevent mold and ventilation issues at this residence. There are mold issues in the home. The placement of the fan has been an issue as it blows the basement odors into the yard and through the kitchen window and the door due to the proximity of the fan.

Gina's take on it is the fan was put in place by a professional what Gina sees from an inspector's point of view is the fan has been modified. This is fine until Gina gets notice from the property owner that something is wrong; Marty Moore did contact Gina and complained that the fan had been modified. The occupant complains that the smell of a crawl space is blowing into other spaces in the house. Even if the Board agrees, there is no code they cannot enforce.

Chris:

- There is no cross ventilation
- Cedar planks are impeding the operation of this fan

Jay:

- Ventilation from a separate space (basement) to a neighboring intake (the window) is there a building code.

Board of Health will either:

- Modify Gina's order
- Leave it alone
- Completely withdraw it

Jay suggests consulting David, the Building Inspector to see if there is a reference in the building code stating that a vent needs to come out a certain distance from the fresh air intake. (Amend the order to occupant's exclusive control – Gina to speak to David)

Jay DiPucchio motioned to table the order until the next Board of Health meeting on September 21 further information is gathered. This was seconded by Chris Boutwell. Motion passes.

- **Discussion regarding board of health members handling resident complaints regarding board of health agent or board of health response in general:**

The BOH members receive calls directly regarding BoH response by Gina .As a way to streamline the process have individuals who had a complaint about Gina or the BoH process come before the next BOH meeting and lodge their complaint. We will have the complainant put in writing and attend the next BOH hearing.

- **Discussion regarding regionalizing public health in Franklin County:**

Jay DiPucchio gave an overview of where we stand with the regionalizing of public health in Franklin County. There are 12 -15 towns in Franklin County that are looking at regionalizing public health services in some areas. The District Incentive Grant Group started by Phoebe to look at the process and if there was an interest and how it would look to regionalization. The next step was a comprehensive approach. 1.) Public Health – comprehensive regional health district/soup to nuts 2.) A Group of Services – fee for services/conceptual approach how to frame and segment tasks i.e.: inspections etc... There was an invitation to prepare a proposal to get funded for a third phase. The amount of money that is in the system that they currently spend does not decrease in year one. The state would come up with \$100,000 in year one and year two, then in year three \$75,000, year four \$50,000 then you are on your own. This would not save us money but would give us the ability to meet the total public health mandate boards of health are responsible for responding to. Once in place, Montague would have access to a full inspector plus other. Michael and Chris: would lean toward a comprehensive Public Health approach. Jay leans towards something set up like the FRCOG. Gina has a concern to how the overhead is billed and the transparency of the costs.

- **Decide whether the board of health wants to administer flu vaccinations this year given new MDPH constraints and our extremely limited public health nursing budget.**

Billie Gammell resigned from the Town Nurse position due to graduate school and responsibilities to family/children.

The State has shifted the flu vaccine from elderly to kids. The wave has been augmented because of the budget. There will be a 55% decrease in flu vaccine doses available. Montague has been given 270 doses 20 doses for under age 18 250 doses only over age of 19 and no one with insurance (everyone in MA is suppose to have insurance?) can be vaccinated. Montague in 2010 vaccinated around 270 and the cost is around \$3.00 a dose. Communicate and make aware that we will not be doing it because of the State mandates and the budget cuts.

Next steps:

An article in paper about the fact we are losing Public Health

If the environment changes – regional story

- **Topics not anticipated covered in the 48 hour posting requirements:**

Has written up a job description for the Town Nurse and the Animal Inspector

Community Health Center acting as Town Nurse

Greenfield Road – spill near a residents water well

Norman Circle – abandoned house the owners are in Niagara Falls, NY

Meeting in Ashfield was heated discussion about not upholding the Housing code

Jay DiPucchio motioned to adjourn at 8:02PM. This was seconded by Chris Boutwell.

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Meeting Agenda Subject to Change

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