

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health
January 21, 2014**

Present: Bill Risso, Chairman, Catherine Galligan, Vallabh Sarma, Donna Margolies, Lee Storrs. Also present: Linda Fantasia, Health Agent, Cynthia Sorn (Mosquito).

NEW MEMBER – Risso welcomed Storrs to the Board. Storrs was appointed to complete the term vacated by Jeff Brem. The Board was pleased to have a full membership and thanked Storrs for applying.

MINUTES – not available

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Housing Complaint – The Board received a complaint from a tenant. The issues were: (1) insufficient lighting on stairs resulting in a slip and fall for the tenant; (2) improper metering of electricity for multiple tenants. The caller had a \$1200 electric bill even though there were other users. Fantasia contacted the landlord who had a meeting with all of the tenants on 1/19/14. They agreed to split the bill for November and December. The landlord is having individual meters installed in each of the units. The landlord advised the tenant to file claim against insurer. Fantasia said the landlord was cooperative and willing to address issues as soon as possible.

DEP/MHOA Winter Seminar – Wilmington 2/20/14, 9-4, Fantasia will attend.

Title 5 Revisions – Copies of the DEP responses to public comments were distributed to the Board. Fantasia noted the following: generators can be used in lieu of additional storage capacity in pump chambers; shared systems will be reviewed by local boards of health (LBOHs) instead of DEP; DEP does not feel transferring authority to LBOH should result in additional costs. DEP will continue to provide technical assistance; LBOH will determine ownership control instead of DEP; filing of Certificates of Compliance electronically; pumping reports should be submitted within 14 days. Fantasia will check to see when the new regulations become effective.

BILLS – Payroll for staff and well inspector; office supplies, December engineering and training were presented. It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Sarma) to approve the bills as presented including up to four attendees for the MHOA/DEP training. Motion passed 5-0-0.

LONG RIDGE ROAD DEVELOPMENT – The Board had been asked to submit comments on the proposed Comprehensive Permit to the Selectmen in preparation of their response to Mass Housing Authority. The project involves 19 new and 1 existing single family residences, with two soil absorption systems and 20 private wells on 9.84 acres off Long Ridge Road. Fantasia had prepared a draft which had been circulated to the Board. The Board's major issues are protection of water supply, wastewater treatment and nitrogen loading. The other land use boards will also be submitting comments. Town counsel will prepare a draft for the Selectmen. Risso said he and Fantasia had attended a pre-submission conference with developer, and former Board of Health chairman, Jeff Brem. Brem does not intend to reduce the number of units or increase the number of affordable (five). Mass Housing will decide whether to issue a project eligibility status so that an application can be submitted to the Carlisle Zoning Board. Title 5 has guidelines for nitrogen loading. Fantasia will forward the information to Board members.

BENFIELD FARMS – the developer is looking for a Certificate of Compliance on the septic system by the end of the month. They would like to have an Occupancy Permit in February. Mark Beaudry, the project engineer, has asked the Board for suggestions on the required Operations & Maintenance Manual. Storrs and Galligan had provided a template which will be forwarded to Rob Frado for comments. Galligan said the manual will probably only be used primarily for training and emergencies. The Board would like it to be referenced regularly. Fantasia said the FAST System is not yet online and the Perc-Rite needs re-installation. Frado needs to be present for both.

CHAPTER 61 NOTICES – The Selectmen have asked whether the Town should exercise its right of first refusal on two properties: 81 Russell Street and 267 Rutland. The Board had some information on Russell Street and an aerial photo of Rutland Street. The Board agreed it could not identify a public health issue that would warrant the Town's purchase of either or both parcels. A response will be sent to the Selectmen.

LOCAL SHELTER PLANNING – Emergency Director David Flannery is working with the Selectmen on shelter planning. The Board is interested in assisting with the planning.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BOOKLET – The remaining \$1600 in emergency planning funds will be used to print the handbook for town wide distribution. Fantasia has been getting quotes which range from \$4900 to \$2700. Storrs will forward contact information for the printer who did the School Building brochure. It may be possible to do a partial order and the balance

when funding is available. It was suggested to have copies available at senior events since it is important for this group to have emergency plans.

SEPTIC LOAN PROGRAM – one of the last two loans has been repaid. A discharge of the lien must be prepared. The Finance Department should do this since they collect the monies owed. The Board agreed to use the Administrative Grant money for this if necessary. The Board discussed whether it should continue the program. Galligan is concerned that owners are using the money as a bridge loan until the house is sold. This is not the intent of the program. Administration takes staff time. The Town paid off the debt from the first round. Town meeting approved an additional amount of \$200,000. Once the current loan is paid off the Board could end the program. Fantasia asked if the Board would advertise that the program had ended. The Board agreed it would not promote the program. Fantasia noted that there is no cost to the town until the note from the state matures (three years from issuance). After the note matures, the Water Abatement Trust bonds the outstanding debt and the town must pay a share. There would be no cost in keeping the program for the remaining time. Funds are only drawn when a loan is approved. The Board agreed that it might be better to keep its options open for the time being. The economy is changing which might trigger more applications if people know that there are resources to upgrade a failing system instead of ignoring the problem. Sarma suggested letting the public know that the program will only be available until the note maturity. Fantasia will check on the date.

ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT - The Board agreed that it supports the amendment as a means of regulating the humanitarian medical use of marijuana, a 2012 ballot initiative, by providing a secure dispensing system for qualifying patients. Members of the subcommittee had presented the proposed amendment at the last meeting.

It was moved (Margolies) and seconded (Galligan) to support the proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment to provide for the establishment of Registered Medical Dispensaries (RMDs) in appropriate locations within the Town. Motion passed 5-0-0.

MA Dept Public Health Intern – Galligan prepared a scope of work for an intern that would help us better utilize the state’s cancer surveillance. Other deliverables address the incidence of melanoma and testicular cancers in Carlisle and creating a public awareness campaign. The intern will be a Master Degree candidate available this summer. The Board approved the application. Fantasia said it might be possible to continue the work using the UMass Medical Population Health Clerkship in the fall.

TOBACCO FREE HOUSING – Galligan noted a journal article which stated that living in a home with a total ban was significantly associated with smoking reduction and making a quit attempt, compared to living in a home with no home ban.¹ The Board had hired a consultant, Terry Curran, to research no-smoking policies for multi-unit housing. Benfield Farms buildings are non-smoking. Fantasia was not sure if the entire property was non-smoking. Curran had also prepared a resource manual for the town.

BANTA DAVIS WATER SUPPLY & TRAFFIC STUDY – Risso will attend the meeting on 1/23/14. The studies have been prepared in order to help the town decide on future uses for the land. A community forum is being held at town hall on 1/25/14 for the 338 Bedford Rd. proposal. Risso feels that the proposed town owned multi-unit housing at 338 Bedford Road should be tied into the school’s wastewater plant instead of installing an onsite system. This would alleviate some of the operational problems of the plant by providing regular flows.

There was no further business discussed. Meeting voted to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Fantasia, Recorder

¹ R.W. Zablocki et al, Smoking Ban Policies and Their Influence on Smoking Behaviors among Current California Smokers: A Population based Study. *Preventive Medicine* 59 (2014) p. 73-78.