

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health
February 3, 2015**

Minutes
Bills Administrative Reports

100 Long Ridge Road

- Board of Health memo to Zoning Board
- Town Hall Advisory Group – update

667 East Street – replacement of failed septic system with I/A System

- reduction in separation to groundwater
- SAS area

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Benfield Farms –ongoing Septic and Well issues
Public Health Funding Request – deadline 2/13/15
FY 15 Budget update
Deer Panel Discussion – summary report
Appointment to Noise Subcommittee
129 East Street – Skavenski letter

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 pm at town hall. Present were Board members Bill Risso (Chairman), Lee Storrs, Catherine Galligan, Donna Margolies and Todd Thorsen. Also present was Linda Fantasia, Health Agent.

MINUTES – It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Thorsen) to approve the minutes of 11-5-14 as amended. Motion passed 5-0-0.

BILLS – payroll for agent, administrative assistant and well inspector; one telephone nursing visit. It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Storrs) to approve the bills as presented. Motion passed 5-0-0.

100 LONG RIDGE ROAD “THE BIRCHES” – 40B COMPREHENSIVE PERMIT APPLICATION

On 1/21/14 the Board sent a memo to the Zoning Board identifying its concerns related to water supply and wastewater disposal. The Board’s position is that:

- The proposed development is too dense for the land area available;
- The water supply should be classified as a Public Water Supply (PWS);
- Since The Birches is a multi-unit development with a waste treatment system consisting of a series of systems, the Board needs the assistance of a consultant with expertise in Title 5 regulations if the Board is to provide comments to the Zoning Board
- The Board is uncertain whether the proposed grinder pumps comply with Title 5 which limits flows pumped to a septic tank to 25% of the required design flows for the house.
- The Board does not agree that its local health regulations do not apply. The project will still need local waivers.

The Board noted that the applicant is paying for Nitsche Engineering Inc. as the peer reviewer. At the request of the Zoning Board, the Selectmen have agreed to cover the cost of any additional experts that that the town believes is necessary. This would be for additional review and not a duplication of the peer review.

667 EAST STREET – replacement of a failed septic system. William Hall of Stamski & McNary Engineering appeared before the Board. The proposed design includes a reduction in separation to groundwater and reduced footprint for the leaching area.

Hall explained that the design uses a Presby Enviro-Septic Soils System due to the presence of ledge throughout the site. The Presby System allows for a 40% reduction in system size and a 2' reduction to high groundwater in its design criteria. A number of test holes were dug at the site but most encountered ledge. There is only one feasible site available. The well will be relocated. Without the reductions grading for the system would be against the house. The system is designed for a garbage grinder in accordance with local regulations for a three bedroom system. The percolation rate is <2mpi requiring a 5' offset to groundwater. With the 2' Presby reduction there will still be a 3' offset to groundwater. The existing well will be capped and decommissioned. Galligan suggested requiring a garbage grinder deed restriction. Grinders can significantly shorten the life of a system and the site has very few options should the new system fail. Other Board members agreed. Risso noted that it does meet the local design flow requirements of 495 gpd for a 3-bedroom system but agreed that a restriction would help to ensure that future owners are aware of the possible risks. The Board reviewed the existing floor plan and asked about possible future building plans. Hall said the property is being sold and he was not aware of any building plans. The Board said that it is important for future owners to understand the limitations of the property. The Board will want to review any building permits. The Board agreed that in addition to recording the garbage grinder deed restriction, it should be attached to the plan of record which is on file at town hall.

It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Margolies) to issue a Sewage Disposal Construction Permit in accordance with plan entitled "Sewage Disposal Plan, 667 East Street, Carlisle MA, map 25, parcel 17, designed by Stamski & McNary Inc., revised January 22, 2015" allowing for a 40% reduction in system size and 2.0' reduction in separation to groundwater as allowed in a Presby Enviro-Septic Wastewater Treatment System and conditional upon recording of a Garbage Grinder Deed Restriction which will also be attached to the Plan of Record. Motion passed 5-0-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Benfield farms development – septic and well issues

Rob Frado conducted a site visit on 1/21/15 following more complaints about odors near the pump house. His report indicated that there had been attempts to seal some of the manhole covers but that there was still a particularly strong odor emanating from one of the manholes. He recommended resealing the cover and replacing the broken bolts. He also noticed a lighter odor around the vents and blower which may be normal functioning. The service vendor had fixed a loose airline inside the FAST tank in October but this did not take care of the odor problem. The Board is concerned about the poor performance of the FAST system. A similar system is being installed at Garrison Place later in the year. At a recent workshop in Westford, Frado and Fantasia were able to speak with Mark Beaudry, design engineer, and Lauren Usilton, FAST system vendor about the odors. Usilton and Beaudry still believe the odors are escaping from around the manholes and recommended inspecting the seals and covers. The Board decided to contact DEP to see if other communities are having problems with this alternative technology.

The Board agreed it would be helpful to convene a meeting of all interested parties, including DEP. Fantasia will proceed with the meeting details.

Region 4A Mini-Grants – The deadline for applying was extended to 2/13/15. Fantasia suggested upgrading the iPhone and/or iPad.

Deer Management Panel – The panel discussion was held on January 15th at the Carlisle School. Approximately 80 people attended. Panelists included David Stainbrook, Deer and Moose Project Biologist, Pat Huckery, Northeast District Supervisor of MassWildlife, Dr. Barbara Roth Schecter, Chairman, Dover Board of Health, and George Giunta, Deer Management Agent, Town of Dover. The Panel moderator was Jean Barry, M. D., Chairman of the Lyme Disease Subcommittee.

Tax volunteer Judy Hodges prepared a summary of the questions and answers asked during the presentation. She will also create a brochure for distribution at town meeting prior to the annual election. The Lyme Disease Subcommittee is interested in establishing a deer management program which would allow bow hunting on public land. The Town of Dover has had a similar program for a few years which it feels has been successful. Although

there is no proven connection that reducing deer will reduce the incidence of tick borne disease, it is the view of the Lyme Disease Subcommittee that it is one approach that the town could take. If the town establishes a hunting program, private land owners might be more willing to open their lands to hunting. The Board of Health does not necessarily agree with this position and would like more input from residents. According to panelist Stainbrook, Carlisle has an overabundance of deer per land area. In addition to acting as hosts for disease-carrying ticks and causing motor vehicle accidents, the overpopulation can result in significant deforestation of the understory. Starving deer will devour new vegetation before it can mature. This promotes the growth of undesirable invasive plants and prevents the trees from reestablishing. The Board discussed ways of doing public outreach such as a town meeting presentation. Storrs suggested a non-binding ballot question to see if residents would support a hunting program. Fantasia will check with town counsel and the Selectmen about placing the question on the ballot.

Noise Subcommittee – The Selectmen asked the Board to appoint a volunteer for the new subcommittee. Galligan volunteered and Storrs agreed to act as backup.

129 East Street- Potential 40B Application. The Board received a letter from Matt Skavenski of Blaisdell Drive who had been contacted by the potential developer. Skavenski's concerns related mainly to water supply. The developer has met informally with some town officials about the possibility of a friendly 40B. Fantasia noted that the Zoning Board Comprehensive Permit Rules has a recommended procedure which includes a pre-submission conference with land use staff. The developer was not aware of the recommendation but is now looking into it.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

2015 Blizzard After Action Report – on January 26th the Local Emergency Planning Committee met to prepare for a possible blizzard the following day. The Board of Health sent out an alert to Medical Reserve Corps volunteers asking for standby volunteers in case the town needed to open a shelter. There were no plans for an overnight shelter but only to provide electrical services, water and a heat during the day. Eight volunteers responded. The storm was not as severe as predicted. There was no shelter activation. The Board is still interested in organizing a local shelter committee since running a shelter involves a number of municipal departments (School, Police, Council on Aging, Selectmen, LEPC, EMS).

Town Caucus – Terms for Margolies and Thorsen will expire in May. Thorsen agreed to run again for a three year term. Margolies will consider running again. It would be her third term.

Self-Certification Checklist for Community Food Events – Galligan reported that the form is close to being finalized for the Board to review. The purpose is to provide an easy to use, educational form that could be used for local events such as the Farmer's Market and Old Home Day. As more food products are being sold at these events it is important for the Board and event managers to know who needs to be licensed and what should be required. Charitable bake sales are usually excluded. Fantasia noted that last fall's 6th Grade Spaghetti Supper never applied for a permit. Since the event is held in the school cafeteria and supervised by the School's Food Service Director the Board did not feel there was any risk to the general public. Fantasia will contact the parent committee to make sure that the proper permits are obtained for next year.

Annual Report – the Board is in the process of reviewing the final draft.

NEW BUSINESS

625 Rutland Street – addition.

A builder had contacted Fantasia with a plan to finish a room in the basement. Fantasia counted eleven rooms in the existing house, twelve with the new room. A geothermal well was installed in 2010. The septic capacity is for four bedrooms and includes a garbage grinder allowance. The system was replaced in 1999 with a FAST system. The owner would like to use the garbage grinder allowance for the new room. He purchased the house in 2009. The Board wanted more information on how the number of rooms increased beyond the septic capacity. Fantasia will invite the owner to the next meeting.

Keeping of Swine – There have been no additional inquiries. The Board agreed to look into regulations from other towns. The current Carlisle regulation was adopted in 1947 and may not be relevant to today’s farming practices.

Effluent Filter Tees – The vendor and manufacturer do not recommended for FAST systems because they interfere with the bacterial growth needed for the system to work. Many septic designs include them and some installers add them even if the plan does not call for one. Fantasia suggested prohibiting tee filters in secondary treatment units the next time the septic regulations are revised.

Meeting Schedule – 2/14/15, 3/10/15, 3/24/15, 4/7/15, 4/28/15.

Meeting voted to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Fantasia
Recorder