

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health  
July 13, 2016**

7:00	<b>BILLS</b> <b>MINUTES - 6/1/16</b> <b>ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS</b>
7:30	<b>PH 347 Russell Street – replacement of failed septic system</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15.211 Setback Distance to Wetlands</li></ul>
8:00	<b>Irrigation Policy – revised draft proposal</b>
	<b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b> 67 Hanover Road – status report Benfield Farms – cover over leaching area Old Home Day Energy Task Force request Food Inspection reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kimballs Ice Cream</li><li>• Great Brook Farm</li></ul> 734 Lowell Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memo for remediation of septic system</li></ul>

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 pm at Carlisle Town Hall. Present were Board members Lee Storrs (Chairman), Catherine Galligan, Donna Margolies, Todd Brady and Todd Thorsen. Also present Linda Fantasia (Health Agent), and Stephanie Hackbarth (Carlisle Mosquito)

**BILLS** – all FY 16 invoices have been paid.

**MINUTES** – It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Brady) to approve the minutes of June 1, 2016 as amended. Motion passed 3-0-2 (Brady and Margolies were not present)

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Community Health Network Area (CHNA15) Grant** – Lee Storrs informed the Selectmen on 7/12/16 about the grant which provides \$20,000 to conduct a community health assessment. The town will then be eligible to apply for a \$30,000 implementation grant. The purpose of the assessment is to identify a shared vision of the health of the Carlisle community in order to improve the quality of life for everyone. It is not intended to address an already defined problem. Key collaborators are the Board of Health, Gleason Library and Council on Aging. The next step will be to set up a Steering Committee of 10 to 11 members and hire a consultant. Initial disbursement of \$10,000 has been received. Storrs said the Steering Committee should include a broad spectrum of residents and local organizations. It is important to do outreach to underserved populations to identify their health concerns. Grant reviewers liked the idea of using trained ambassadors to interface with subgroups in the community.

Margolies offered to be the primary Board of Health liaison to the Steering Committee with Thorsen as a backup. All board members are invited to participate in the 18-month long project.

**338 Bedford Road** – The new pump chamber was inspected and approved on 6/18/16 but there has been no further work. The Building Inspector advised there may be a problem with water quality that will require filtration. An application for the well was submitted on 2/22/16. The existing well was decommissioned by Skillings 7/9/15. No well completion report or water quality test has been filed.

**Community Event on Preventing Substance Abuse in Youth** - Fantasia met with Chief Fisher, Dennett Sidell and Carrie Wilson (Principals), Melissa Weiksnar, and Tim Goddard to plan a showing of the movie “If Only” to parents of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on 10/5/16 at 7 pm. This will be followed by a viewing for students the next day in class. The School Health Dept. will coordinate a curriculum to follow up on the movie. Website materials will be available prior to the showing to inform parents about the movie. Parents may opt out students. There will be a

panel discussion following the parent showing. Panelists will include Chief Fisher, School Principals, Melissa Weiksna (resident), and a medical professional.

**Cancer Incidence Registry - 2008-2012** Galligan gave an overview of the charts that she and David Estabrook, a public health intern, had created. The charts illustrate Observed vs. Expected cases for 23 types of cancer in Carlisle residents for the years 2008-2012. The data is provided by the state to identify trends over time. With this information the Board can inform and educate residents and hopefully change risky behaviors. According to Galligan there can be a number of reasons for an increase in observed over expected cases including improved diagnostic tools and early access to medical care. Breast, thyroid and melanoma have higher than expected incidences in women in Carlisle and similarly for prostate, colon and melanoma in men. Galligan pointed out that an increase in cases such as melanoma does not necessarily translate into an increase in deaths because of early intervention. Galligan will update the narrative that goes with the chart which will be available in the office and on the website.

**Planning Board Liaisons 2016** – Ed Rolfe and Jonathan Stevens

**Selectmen's Meetings for the Summer** – July 26, August 16

**Skyhawks SNAG Camp** – The camp offers golf lessons for four and five year olds from 7/11/16 to 7/15/16 at Spalding Field. Only three campers are attending. Fantasia issued the license.

**PUBLIC HEARING 347 RUTLAND STREET – Septic System Upgrade.** Present for the hearing was Molly Obendorf of Stamski & McNary, Inc.

Obendorf explained that the existing system failed a Title 5 Inspection on 4/28/16. The site is constrained due well location, wetlands and property lines. The proposed design is for four bedrooms with a garbage grinder and includes Low Profile Infiltrator Chambers. This technology will allow the existing lawn to be maintained with minimal fill. The system is located in an area with the least environmental impact but requires a waiver from local regulations for an 80' setback from wetlands (100' required). The Conservation has already reviewed the plan and does not have any problems with the design. The public hearing has been continued pending Board of Health action.

The Board asked why the design includes a garbage grinder allowance. Obendorf said there is one in the house which the owners would like to keep. The Board explained how a grinder can shorten the life of a system which is why the Board does not recommend them. If the grinder allowance were eliminated the system would be smaller increasing the setback to wetlands. Obendorf agreed that it would result in more setback but did not think it would reduce the size of the system significantly. Obendorf provided a hand drawn floor plan to verify room count. The Board said the plan showed ten rooms which requires a five bedroom system. Obendorf said there are only four bedrooms in the house. The room count depends on how large open areas are counted. The Board noted that the state recommends counting rooms based on function. A single large area may have more than one function. The Board agreed that it would need a better floor plan in order to separate out combined rooms.

The Board suggested two options to Obendorf: (1) talk with the owners about eliminating the grinder and designing for five bedrooms, or (2) submit a measured floor plan to verify a four bedroom system. If the owners agree to a five bedroom design without a garbage grinder, a revised plan for five bedrooms will need to be submitted and the owners will need to verify that the grinder has been removed.

The Board also noted that the existing system required a fill easement on the adjacent property. This will no longer be needed with the proposed design. The Board will want the easement discharged. Fantasia noted that the fill easement should have been shown on the plan and the abutter notifications submitted. Obendorf agreed to send in the abutters notification cards. She will also discuss the design options with the owners. It was agreed to continue the public hearing until 7/27/16.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Composting** – Brady would like to educate residents on the benefits of composting. It is one of the initiatives of the Dept. of Public Health. Composting would reduce the need for garbage grinders which can shorten the life of a system.

**Irrigation Policy** – Thorsen had edited the draft policy to make it easier for the homeowner to understand. He had consulted with Ken Belitz of the Conservation Commission who is a hydrologist. Belitz questioned the need for an irrigation policy. He felt that monitoring the water depth to show drawdown would be more helpful. Installing the monitors would require pulling the cap off an existing well which may not be practical for single family homes. It could be required for multi-family housing. The Board noted the multi-family developments have meters on the water lines.

The Board agreed that the purpose of the policy is not to police water usage but to educate people on the importance of protecting the groundwater supply. Board members were concerned that a homeowner might simply interpret the current draft policy as allowing 37,000 gals/yr. for irrigation based on the examples. A better approach is understanding what the irrigation system is designed for and then calculating estimated number of days to be watered. Board members suggested various ways of presenting the information and Thorsen agreed to prepare another draft. The Board is not planning on issuing permits for irrigation systems but would like to have systems registered. Homeowners could be educated with media materials on the website and when a sewage disposal system permit is pulled. Rob Frado had mentioned to Fantasia that he does not want irrigation tubing placed over the leaching field. It should be possible to run the irrigation tubing outside the 5.0' over excavation and only spray over the leaching area. Fantasia said many companies will check for as-built plans of the system. The Board will discuss the policy again at the next meeting.

### **67 Hanover Road – septic system failure.**

The Board had been advised in the beginning of June by Rob Sarmanian of Oakson Inc., the vendor for the Perc-Rite alternative technology, that the leaching field was in failure due to possible compaction of the soil. He was going to contact the design engineer, George Dimakarakos, to see about remediation. The Board had expected a proposal for its June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The Board was getting concerned since it considered the failed system which was breaking out to be a public health emergency. At its last meeting the Board ordered Rob Frado to investigate the site.

Frado visited the site earlier in the day and submitted a report to the Board. According to a 7/12/16 email from Sarmanian to Frado, Sarmanian felt that the topsoil was very compacted starving the soil of oxygen creating a thick biomat under the emitters and on top of the underlying Title 5 sand, essentially clogging it. He recommended removing the topsoil and tubing, scraping away the contaminated sand and replacing it with clean Title 5 sand. All of the tubing would be replaced. When Frado visited the site earlier in the day, both Michael Kenny, builder, and Dimakarakos were onsite. Several hand dug holes had been excavated throughout the leaching area verifying a thick black biomat and contaminated sand. When they opened the septic tanks they also found that the effluent tee filter was clogged and they observed spillover of solids from the first to the second tank which probably made their way to the leaching field. A drain pipe had been laid over the septic tank cover and Frado suspected the seepage had surcharged the tank. The owner had just had the tank pumped. Frado thought the perforated drain pipe may have caused the failure rather than compaction of the soil. Kenny told Frado that he planned on removing and replacing the tubing the next day. He had been consulting with Stamski & McNary, Inc. Frado told him he would need a permit from the Board of Health before doing any work and only a licensed installer could do the work. Kenny agreed to obtain the permit and hire a licensed installer.

The Board was concerned that no plans had been submitted to correct the situation and wanted to make it clear that no work could be done without a permit or a licensed installer. Many of the parties involved had been in contact via email but nothing had been submitted to the Board. The Board agreed on the following:

- Issue a formal Enforcement Order to stop any unpermitted work on the system.

- Contact the homeowner and make sure he is aware of what is happening and that it was illegal to do any work without a permit.
- The Board would be willing to issue an Emergency Permit.
- All work must be done by a licensed installer.
- The drain pipe must be relocated to prevent surcharging the septic tank.
- The owner, builder, installer, vendor and engineer will be asked to attend a special meeting before the Board on either 7/19/16 or 7/20/16 (to be determined).

**Benfield Farms – FAST System test results.** The Board reviewed the latest results and agreed that the system is improving. A question had arisen about the condition of the grass over the leaching area which looked spotty. Rob Sarmanian sent a picture of what can happen when a Perc-Rite system is in full sun and not regularly watered. The water discharging from the system causes sporadic growths of grass giving the appearance of a “polka-dot” field. This is entirely normal.

**Old Home Day Report** – Board members Storrs, Galligan, Brady and Thorsen helped out at the booth along with Kristen Murphy from the Medical Reserve Corps. Visitors to the booth were asked to participate in a short survey and take a chance on a raffle. Three winners were later selected. Educational materials were provided. Better tick awareness and control of dogs were mentioned in comments. Galligan suggested purchasing a banner for the booth to make it more visible.

**Energy Task Force -** The committee thought the Board of Health might be interested in some of their upcoming activities having to do with alternatives to green lawns and geothermal systems. They are planning a series of lectures for later in the year. Board members decided to table action until there was more information.

**Food Establishment Inspections** – The Board reviewed inspection reports on Great Brook Farm and Kimball’s Ice Cream Stands. Both operations are well run with no code violations. Kimball’s was advised to cover toppings separately to avoid allergy cross overs. The stands are inspected twice – pre-opening and during operation.

**734 Lowell Street -** The system failed a Title 5 Inspection due to a cracked tank. The owner hired an engineer to inspect the leaching field. Following his investigation, the engineer recommended replacing the tank and distribution box but only cleaning out the leaching lines which appeared to be in good condition. He would verify this with a camera when the tanks are being replaced. The Board was concerned about jetting out the leaching lines and what happens to the sludge removed. The Board would like Frado to comment on the proposal. Since the tank and distribution box are exposed, the owner would like to get started as soon as possible.

There was no further business. Meeting voted to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Fantasia,  
Recorder