

**Town of Middleton, Massachusetts  
Board of Health**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

August 15, 2012

The Middleton Board of Health held a public meeting on August 15, 2012 at the Flint Public Library (Meeting Room A), 4 South Main Street, Middleton, Massachusetts at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Robert Ambrefe, Chair  
George Demeritt  
Paul Leblanc  
Matthew Greenfield

**Others Present:**

Derek Fullerton, Public Health Director  
Stacey Haynes, Recording secretary  
Greg Bernard, P.E.  
Hoatian Wu, Public Health Intern

Chairman Ambrefe opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2012**

Mr. Demeritt suggests a correction on page 2 of the minutes. The last sentence of the second to last paragraph should include the word “he” and should be changed to: “Mr. Fullerton states he has not finished reviewing the case and will verify that information for the Board”.

Mr. Demeritt also asked for clarification of the word “analogizes” within the second to last paragraph on page 4, as he has never heard it before.

***MOTION: Mr. Demeritt moved to accept the meeting minutes of May 16, 2012 as written, with the addition of the requested amendment. Mr. Greenfield seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.***

**MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2012**

Mr. Greenfield notes the following correction to the motion found on page 3 of the minutes: Ferncroft Country Club Variance Request of Middleton Board of Health Regulation §330-3: Lifeguard Required for Outdoor Pools. Mr. Demeritt and Mr. Greenfield accepted the motion and it was opposed by Mr. LeBlanc. The motion should therefore be changed from “Motion carried 3-0” to “Motion carried 2-1”.

Chairman Ambrefe clarified for the record regarding the same variance request. The minutes state he is a close friend of Jill Mann who was present as legal representation of the Ferncroft Country Club; however, Chairman Ambrefe indicated that he conducts business with Ms. Mann and that is the reason for abstaining.

***MOTION: Mr. Demeritt moved to accept the meeting minutes of June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 as written, with the addition of the requested amendments. Mr. Greenfield seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.***

### **132 FOREST STREET**

Greg Bernard presented to the Board and stated he is representing the applicant for the property located at 132 Forest Street in requesting the variance to the Middleton Board of Health Regulation Section 339-8C. (1): Variance to construct a soil absorption system less than 100 feet to bordering vegetated wetlands.

Mr. Bernard showed the Board the proposed plans to the property, which has an existing home and is located on the corner of Forest Street and Currier Road. Mr. Bernard plans to install a CULTEC leaching field behind the house, and to replace an existing failed cesspool on the right side of the house with a 1500-gallon septic tank.

Mr. Bernard noted there are wetlands located on the right side of the house, and would like to maintain a setback of 105 feet to the proposed soil absorption system to those wetlands. Also, there are wetlands located on the other side of Currier Road that extend to the edge of the street line. Mr. Bernard is proposing maintaining a setback of 67 feet for those wetlands.

At this time, Mr. Demeritt asked Mr. Bernard if there are any alternatives to his proposed plan. Mr. Bernard explained to Mr. Demeritt that the entire lot is within the buffer zone of the wetlands located on each side. Because of this, Mr. Bernard felt it was the best alternative to maintain at least 100 feet from the wetlands located on the property, and that the roadway of Currier Road would create a better buffer and have less of an impact on the other wetlands.

Mr. LeBlanc asks Mr. Bernard why he has not flagged the wetlands on Currier Road, and if the Conservation Commission has looked at his plan. Mr. Bernard explained to Mr. LeBlanc that the wetlands were taken off the original subdivision. Mr. Bernard did not feel it was necessary to flag the wetlands because they were shown coming out to the edge of the street line (paved roadway). Mr. Bernard also states that the Conservation Commission performed a Request for a Determination of Applicability (RDA) last week. As a result, the Conservation Agent has notified Mr. Bernard that he will be receiving a negative determination letter.

Mr. LeBlanc asked Mr. Fullerton for his recommendation. Mr. Fullerton did not see any issues with the proposed upgrade.

Chairman Ambrefe asked Mr. Bernard if the property is connected to town water. Mr. Bernard tells Mr. Chairman that there is currently an existing abandoned well to the left of the house, and that they will connect to the town water supply at Currier Road.

Mr. Fullerton offers a recommendation that the Board set a condition to have the water line be installed prior to the septic system. Mr. Fullerton explained that this would be a good idea if they decided to move the system to another area, or in the event a new property owner wished to use the well for irrigation purposes.

***MOTION: Mr. LeBlanc moved to accept the local variance request from Middleton Board of Health Regulation section 339-8C.(1): Variance to construct a soil absorption system less than 100 feet to bordering vegetated wetlands, with the condition that the water line be installed prior to installing the soil absorption system. Mr. Greenfield seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.***

## **MIDDLETON IN MOTION PROJECTS:**

### **1). Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Plan Public Health Project: Intern Hoatian Wu**

Mr. Fullerton introduced Hoatian Wu to the Board as one of his current public health interns. Mr. Fullerton praised Mr. Wu for outstanding work ethic, which included taking it upon himself to conduct an obesity study for the town.

Mr. Wu is currently working on the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) that is being implemented at the Farmer's Market. Mr. Wu presents the Board with a summary of the work he has completed on the SNAP Program, including how the program works; its benefits; and the incentives that SNAP recipients receive by shopping at the Farmers Market.

Chairman Ambrefe questions what percentage of the residents of the town that receive SNAP benefits. Mr. Fullerton responds to Mr. Chairman by stating that he has been unable to obtain that stat.

Mr. Fullerton announced that the Farmer's Market has just received its permit from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be an authorized vendor of SNAP Benefits. Mr. Fullerton will assist the Farmers Market in applying for a grant for a free (Point of Sale) POS device from a new program being offered by the Massachusetts DAR. The recent \$500 grant the Health Department received from the Massachusetts DPH to purchase the POS device will now be put toward marketing and mass media of the program for the Farmers Market.

At this time, Mr. Wu presents a packet of FAQ's he has put together regarding the Farmer's Market for the Board to review on their own.

The Board thanks Mr. Wu for an excellent job and thanks him for all his hard work.

### **2). Emergency Dispensing Plan (EDS) Update: Intern Laurence Tagger**

Mr. Fullerton states that another one of his current interns, Laurence Tagger has been working on the EDS Plan, but was unable to attend tonight's meeting. According to Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Tagger has done an excellent job at condensing the 500 pages EDS Plan so that the content can now be easily accessed. Mr. Tagger has also conducted a Site Facility Survey at the Howe Manning School and has attended emergency preparedness meetings to learn about Alternative Dispensing Methods. Mr. Fullerton is pleased with all his hard work and is happy that Mr. Tagger will continue his work throughout the school year, if requested.

### **3). Rails to Trails Project: Intern Hoatian Wu**

Mr. Wu now presents the Board with a pamphlet he has created outlining the Rails to Trails Program. Mr. Wu goes over the information provided in the pamphlet and answers the Board's questions regarding the planning phase and funding for the project.

The Board thanks Mr. Wu again for a job well done.

## **WNV/EEE DISCUSSION**

Mr. Fullerton presented the Board with a packet that contains a collection of data regarding WNV/EEE mosquito activity in Massachusetts. Mr. Fullerton also informed the Board that the town of Boxford has recently adopted a protocol in response to a positive result of EEE in Topsfield. Having discussed adopting a protocol in the past, Mr. Fullerton has drafted one using Boxford's protocol as a guide. Mr. Fullerton explained that with all the recent activity of WNV/EEE, he would like the Board to review the protocol and discuss the option of implementing it.

Mr. Chairman agrees that it is important to do what's best for the town and they should have protocols in place.

Mr. Demeritt argues he would feel more comfortable with reviewing the information before endorsing the plan.

Mr. Greenfield suggests that the Board have a chance to review the protocol and then notify Mr. Fullerton of their decisions.

Mr. Chairman suggests the Board go ahead and adopt the protocol as written so it can go into effect prior to the next mosquito pool reading on Friday. The Board can review the protocol, and has until noon on Friday to respond to Mr. Fullerton with any suggestions and/or changes.

### **SHELTER EXERCISE**

Mr. Fullerton announced that Middleton has been asked by the Northeast Homeland Security Regional Advisory Council to participate in a shelter exercise. The exercise will be held on August 30<sup>th</sup> 2012 at the Howe Manning School, and is essentially a showcase of how NERAC is able to assist communities in the event they may need to set up a shelter with federally purchased supplies and equipment. Mr. Fullerton has allocated 20 people to attend from the town and would like at least one Board of Health member to attend.

Mr. Demeritt volunteered and tells Mr. Fullerton that he would be happy to attend. Mr. Fullerton thanks Mr. Demeritt for his commitment and states the event should be a great learning experience.

### **INTERIM ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER**

Mr. Fullerton announces that the current Animal Control Officer is on suspension. Reed Wilson is currently acting as the interim Animal Control Officer.

### **SHARPS AND UNUSED/EXPIRED MEDICATIONS DISPENSING PLANNING**

Mr. Fullerton states Federal Law has taken effect in July stating that all biohazard sharps must be disposed of properly. Public Health Nurse, Tracy Mello is currently working on expanding the town's annual sharps collection program, so residents will have the opportunity to dispose of their personal sharps more than the one time per year at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. Mr. Fullerton will present the Board with an update by the end of the year.

### **SHINGLES VACCINATION PROJECT-2012**

Mr. Fullerton announces that the Public Health Nurse, Tracy Mello has applied for a program through Merck to obtain a supply of the Zoster vaccine for the town. Mr. Fullerton provides the Board with an outline of the program, as well as its guidelines.

### **HOUSING INSPECTIONS**

Mr. Fullerton updated the board of current housing inspection requests and response.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Angelicas seating  
Candlelight issues  
McDonalds septic system  
Thunder Bridge testing

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2012 at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Fuller Meadow School-Media Room.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*MOTION: They're being no further business, Mr. LeBlanc moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Demeritt seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Stacey Haynes  
Recording secretary*