

March 22, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Health was held at the Town Hall on Monday, March 22, 2010. The meeting was duly posted. Board members present were: Peter DeTerra, Dolores Caton and Jeannine Lopes. Also present: Patricia Fowle, Health Agent.

Mr. DeTerra, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. He requested the minutes of the meeting of March 8, 2010 be amended or approved.

Motion to approve the minutes of March 8, 2010 was made by Ms. Caton; seconded by Ms. Lopes. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Al Benac, 44 Summer Street, came before the Board. Though he was not on the agenda, the Board listened to his concerns. Mr. Benac is offended by the number of cigarette signs in store windows and on store outdoor sign poles. He stated that in 2002 he spoke to a person from the State Department of Public Health (DPH) and received a handbook on these issues. He would like the Board to require the stores to remove the signs. Photos were presented. Mr. DeTerra explained that the signage is not advertisement but pricing and the Board has no authority to require their removal. Mr. Benac will be given the telephone number for Nick Charest of the Greater New Bedford Tobacco Control Program for further information.

A written request was received from Cory deSousa, Little People's College, requesting approval for the continued use of a portable large bin to use in combination with the existing two-bin sink for ware washing at 128 Scoticut Neck Road.

Motion to allow the use of a portable large bin with the provisions that only non-potentially hazardous foods are prepared on site, the student population does not greatly increase in number and the need for ware washing is kept to a minimum was made by Ms. Caton; seconded by Ms. Lopes. The vote was two in favor with Mr. DeTerra abstaining.

Ms. Fowle reported on the following:

1. The State DPH has sent notice to all Boards of Health that the State supplied seasonal flu vaccine for next season will be in very limited supply and recommends that Boards of Health place private orders with the vaccine manufacturers for the vaccine they believe they will need. Discussion ensued. Ms. Caton questioned the vaccines that contained thimerosal and presented the Board with an article on autism and vitamin D. The article is part of this record. Discussion ensued.
2. The State DPH has updated its Bathing Beach Regulations 105 CMR 445.000 that will be in effect July 2010. Board of Health issued permits are required, as is signage at each beach. Ms. Fowle will attend a seminar on the changes to the regulations on April 6.
3. An emergency closure of Great Wall Chinese Restaurant, 14 Fairhaven Commons Way, occurred on Friday, March 19, 2010 at approximately 4:30 PM. A new store owner will be taking over soon and construction work was occurring as food was being prepared. In-house sanitary conditions were poor and the restaurant was ordered closed.

Ms. Lopes stated there was a small grease fire in the kitchen at the VFW on March 21, 2010 while a breakfast fundraiser was occurring. Ms. Lopes stated the floor around the grill and frialator was not good. Ms. Fowle will inspect.

The Planning Board requested a review to discontinue Sherwood Street, a paper street, that is to the rear of 100 and 110 Alden Road. The Board offered no objections.

Due to a conflict in schedules, Ms. Fowle cannot attend the scheduled Board meeting of March 29, 2010. The Board changed the meeting schedule cancelling the March 29 meeting and scheduled April 12 and 26, 2010 at 6:30 PM meetings.

There being no other business before the Board, motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM was made by Ms. Lopes; seconded by Ms. Caton. Vote was unanimous.

Patricia Fowle, Health Agent