

MINUTES
STURBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Monday, October 18, 2010 7:00pm

Meeting called to order 7pm.

Present: Members; Linda Cocalis, Bob Audet John Degnan and Health Agent, Alyssa Rusiecki.

Informational session: The Board is considering a “Pay-as-you-Throw” PAYT program. Ms. Cocalis presents the information as a potential for making the Recycling Center/Landfill more self-sufficient. Mary Afable states that she thinks it would be a good idea to produce a local cable announcement and she would be willing to help. Mrs. Carol Goodwin states that a committee should be developed. The Board agrees and feels that not only could committee members help with communication and education, they could help with sticker distribution as well. Ms. Cocalis states that the Board is waiting to hear about a grant from DEP for seed money for the PAYT program. The Agent states that there has been resistance to the \$20 fee for a second sticker and perhaps the Board would approve a \$5 fee for all stickers, regardless of the reason for replacement. The Board makes no changes and the second sticker shall cost \$20; beginning January 1st, all 2nd stickers shall cost \$20 no matter what the reason.

Ms. Rusiecki, presents a proposal to the Board for a “Green Team” initiative (attached), under which local restaurants would be identified as being Recycling conscious and part of our program. Some of the criteria that could be considered would be: grease trap compliance; compostable serving items; grease rendering; green cleaning products; and recycling. As a benefit for being part of the “Green Team” perhaps there could be limited use of the Recycling Center for cardboard collection. This in turn would save the businesses money. If the interest was overwhelming, then a simple lottery or rotating schedule could be used for cardboard collection.

Mr. Raphael Cardenas, is introduced as a new food establishment owner, (StellaDenas Cakes) who is interested in a green initiative and he presents information to the Board about the use of recycled products or those products that are environmentally-friendly. The Board members are very appreciative of this information and asks Mr. Cardenas to continue working with the Board and Agent. The Agent will get together a mailing list so that this information can be disseminated to the other food establishment owners.

HEARING: 34 Goodrich Rd. Tight Tank application, owners Holly and Keith Leaning and septic designer Mark Farrell, RS of Green Hill Engineering. Also present, Mr. Fred Gunn abutting owner, 36-38 Goodrich Rd.

The following variances are requested: six feet from a property line to a (tight) tank, ten feet required; twenty-eight feet to a neighboring well, fifty feet required; ten feet to their own well, fifty feet required; one bedroom restriction; and lack of soil testing.

Mr. Gunn asked the following questions: What will happen to the old system? Will the side of the tank be exposed? Will the tank be watertight? And what will happen to the drainage along the property lines?

Mr. Farrell and Ms. Rusiecki answer that the old system will be pumped and abandoned with clean fill and left in place according to Code. Mr. Farrell states that he will try to set the tank as low as possible and that the abutter will not see the tank, they may put landscaping stone around it if ledge is an issue. The tank will be tested for water-tightness and will be an H-20, (heavy-duty) tank. The

Agent recommends trying testing for installation because she feels that a ten-foot offset to their own well, (noting that the property is for sale and will not be used by the current owners) is a health concern. Mr. Farrell and Ms. Cocalis state that since the tank is watertight it should not be an issue. The Agent responds that perhaps a fiberglass tank could be placed further away, and could be dug by hand. Holly Leaning states that it is all ledge and could never be dug by hand. Since there is no alternative, Ms. Cocalis states that the Board should condition the tight tank by requiring annual testing of the private wells in accordance with both the Town of Sturbridge well water regulations and the 310 CMR 15.000, Title 5; and the required pumping, operation and maintenance, and deed restrictions.

Ms. Cocalis makes a motion that the variance for the existing owner's well be allowed to stay a distance of ten feet from the tight tank installation with the condition that the affected wells be tested annually, on a calendar year, January 1st for parameters set forth under local regulations and State Title 5; Mr. Audet seconds. The Board votes to approve, (3 – 0).

OLD BUSINESS: 122 River Rd. Atty. Ed Neal representing Larry Hardy at 122 River Rd. and Larry Hardy are present. Attorney Neal wishes to be heard under old business regarding a previous septic system upgrade at 122 River Rd. Mr. Neal states that he thought they would be getting a letter. The Agent states that the letter went out today, *(note: the Agent goes to the copier and makes a copy of the letter and gives it to Mr. Neal)*. The letter states that the permit to construct the upgrade septic system at 122 River Rd. shall be held in abeyance until the property line dispute is resolved. Chairwoman Cocalis states that the Board will notify, the abutter, Sherry Broulette, to appear before the Board of Health with evidence of the supposed property line discrepancy at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting 10:00pm, seconded, approved (3 – 0).

Submitted,

Alyssa Rusiecki
Public Health Agent