Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 1, 1993

Present: Ellen Foberg, Leonard Laffond, James O'Brien, Melissa Quinn

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. Also present were Ruth Truesdell and Kathleen Oliver (Council on Aging).

Ms. Truesdell and Ms. Oliver came in to discuss the status of the town nurse post. Chairman Foberg briefly reviewed the events of the past few weeks relative to this issue, particularly advice from Town Counsel. Counsel advised that the Board make major changes to the position in order to alleviate the significant liability issues surrounding the nurse's job description. It was noted that the Board does wish to continue to provide blood pressure checks and flu clinics to town residents and they are currently looking into the possibility of the school nurse providing these services. Ms. Truesdell stated that the Council on Aging felt that there was a need for a broader scope of town nursing services needed than the blood pressure checks and flu clinics, but not to the same degree as before. She felt that "reasonably supportive" nursing care, including diabetic training was needed. Ms. Oliver asked what the previous nurse's case load had been. It was explained that this was one of the factors that the Board had been trying to ascertain, but were unable to do so because of the nurse's reluctance to share with them the names of her clients and the time that she spent with them. It was once again pointed out that at no time did the Board ask for or desire any medical information whatsoever, but were only attempting to have the nurse provide accountability for the 20 hours per week that she was paid for. Ms. Truesdell pointed out that the Council had received complaints from residents that privacy was not provided to clients by the nurse during visits and some people discontinued utilizing nursing services because of this concern. It was noted that there was consternation on the part of some elderly residents due to the nurse's resignation, and the Council had done what they could to alleviate these fears. It was noted that there are other services available to senior citizens, including those offered by Franklin County Home Care, Elder Care and the Visiting Nurse Association. Ms. Truesdell and Ms. Oliver stated that the Council would be happy to assist the Board in any way to provide nursing care for residents.

Ms. Foberg reported that repair work and renovations on a camp owned by James Daneker on Potter Road had been started prior to the issue of a building permit. A letter sent to the owner November 1, 1990 was read (see attached). Ms. Foberg contacted the Department of Environmental Protection relative to the options for upgrading the septic system on this property. She also spoke to the contractor, Thomas Danek, who is doing the repairs. Mr. Danek has arranged for an engineer to come up on Monday, June 7th to ascertain a resolution to the problem. The Board of Health will meet with Mr. Danek and the engineer at 9:00 A.M. on Monday.

A memo was received from the Park Commission requesting water tests of Pelham Lake along the shoreline in front of cabins and at causeway. Ms. Foberg will collect the samples for mailing to the laboratory for testing for coliform levels.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Melissa S. Quinn
Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Ellen L. Foberg

Ellen L. Foberg, Chairman

Leonard J. Laffond

Leonard J. Laffond

James E. O'Brien