Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2000

Present: Mary Jo Phelps, Ellen L. Foberg, Geoffrey N. Bagley and Melissa S. Quinn

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM. Also present were Doug Wilson and Felicity Pickett of Rowe Camp & Conference Center.

Chairman Phelps read a letter hand-delivered to her by Doug Wilson. (See file.)

Ms. Pickett wanted to make note of a call she had made on Monday, June 5th to Howard Wensley (DEP) regarding the placement of bunk beds in camp facilities. She reported that Mr. Wensley had stated that the placement of the bunk beds was "ok". Ms. Quinn was directed to contact Sharon White for clarification of this matter.

Mr. Wilson expressed confusion regarding Board of Health regulations requiring a "professional engineer" (or a registered sanitarian) to perform percolation tests in Rowe. He did not know what was meant by a "professional engineer". Mr. Bagley stated that it is generally understood that a professional engineer means a person having a PE (professional engineering) degree. The person hired by RC&C, Ron Lavigne, is not a professional engineer nor is he a registered sanitarian. He is a qualified soil evaluator, as required by DEP, but Rowe Board of Health regulations are stricter than DEP Title 5 code. The Board explained that it is not their responsibility to contact the engineer or sanitarian; that is the responsibility of the property owner that pays for the service. It is also the property owner's responsibility to ascertain that the person that they hire is qualified, under state and local laws. Doug said that they would make sure that they have a qualified person do their next percolation test, and he asked for an extension to the May 31st deadline. Ms. Foberg asked about sleeping quarters for persons that they plan to seat in the proposed new "winter" dining area for which the new system is to be designed (in addition to whatever other facilities will be using the system). Felicity stated that three of the cabins are "winterized" and sleep ten persons each, or thirty persons. The Farmhouse has 9 bedrooms with 2 persons to each bedroom, or another 18 persons. There is presently a summer dining facility that holds 100 persons, which would bring the total of their dining capacity to 180 between both dining rooms. Felicity said that they are limited to 120 persons for the entire facility due to restrictions on their water supply, and they do not have sleeping facilities for more than that. Ms. Foberg again asked for a plan of the entire complex, showing each structure, and all systems, water, septic, etc. Felicity asked why the Board wanted this plan now, and Ms. Foberg said that the Board could take not action on any applications before them unless and until this plan is received. Felicity said that she would bring the plan to the office "tomorrow" (6/7/00). The Board granted an extension to June 16 for a percolation test for the new system. The date for the test was set tentatively for June 12 at 8:30 AM. Doug Wilson said that Nina Inchardi (PE) will conduct the test for the RC&C.

In receipt of a check for $25.00, it was voted to grant a license to pump/haul septage to the Hartigan Company (formerly A-1 Sanitary of Colrain, MA), a sub-division of Casella Waste Systems.

Chairman Phelps reported the results of the following percolation tests:

May 24th
Veber (Middletown Hill Road) Map 1, Lot 20 Failed
Six holes dug, only one hole could be dug to 6 feet, 40" - 42" depth to impervious soil, no water test.

Ann German (Davenport Road) Map 6, Lot 46) Failed
One hole dug to 10 feet, 38" to impervious soil. No property boundaries flagged, no water test done. Property owner needs to survey and reschedule a test in a different location.

May 30th -- 31st
Rowe Camp & Conference Center Map 5, Lot 20 No Results
(King's Highway)
Six holes dug, an overnight soak was done, lower three holes were eliminated, and 1st hole was ok, 1" to 9 minutes. 2nd one was stopped due to discovering that Ron Lavigne's qualifications are not in compliance with BOH regulations as per page 30, Town By-Law book, "Two members of the Board of Health, and the Health Agent/Sanitarian, shall observe the performance of a percolation test conducted by a qualified Registered Sanitarian or professional engineer."

A percolation test will be rescheduled for the Ted Brown property (Map 3, Lot 49) at a later time for a repair to an existing system.

Chairman Phelps signed a building permit application for Dan & Lisa Burke for a new house on Tunnel Road, indicating compliance with Board of Health regulations.

A septic pumping log was received from Houghton Sanitary Service for the David Wayne property on Davis Mine Road. The log reported that on June 1, one thousand gallons were pumped from the concrete tank, which appeared to be in good condition.

The following tanks were pumped by Bostley Sanitary:

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| McLatchy (Newell Cross Road) | 1500 gallon concrete tank | Condition ? |
| Paige (Newell Cross Road) | 1000 gallon concrete tank | Condition – Good |
| Pelham Lake Park | 500 gallon tank | Outhouses |
| Highway Garage | 1000 gallon concrete tank | Condition – Good |
| Riggan, George (Leshure Road) | 1000 gallon tank | Condition – OK |

A draft of a memo to the Shantigar Foundation asking for information relative to the installation and use of tents to house summer workshops was approved for mailing.

Chairman Phelps noted that she had spoken briefly to Health Agent Sharon White relative to summer recreation programs for children to be held at the Pelham Lake Park this summer. Ms. White will be asked to inspect the Park and discuss requirements for the programs with Park Manager Tom Willard.

Ms. Foberg noted that on June 6th, she was asked by John Graziano about another extension to the June 30 deadline for construction of a septic system at his property on Pond Road. She told him that there would be no further extensions and the Board was in unanimous agreement. Mr. Graziano appeared to appreciate this decision, as it might help to encourage the installer to complete the work.

It was noted that there are two other systems that must be installed before their July 31st deadlines: Carlow on Ford Hill Road and Petersen on Zoar Road.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Mary Jo Phelps

Ellen L. Foberg

Geoffrey N. Bagley