Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2001

Present: Mary Jo Phelps, Ellen Foberg, Geoffrey Bagley & Melissa Quinn

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM. Also present was Doug Corarito.

Mr. Corarito requested the Board's attendance at a percolation test at his property at 162 Zoar Road on Wednesday, May 30, 2001 at 9AM. Chairman Phelps and Mr. Bagley confirmed that they would be available. Ms. Quinn will contact Health Agent Sharon White to make sure that she can also be present. Mr. Corarito will contact abutting property owners Rick and Rob Williams so that they may also be present. They have expressed that they are willing to discuss selling Mr. Corarito some land if it is impossible to cite a replacement septic system on Corarito land.

The Board received a copy of a letter (name omitted) that the Nurse Practitioner Ruth Loomis wishes to send to a patient. The patient in question was verbally abusive (and threatened a lawsuit) to Ms. Loomis when she addressed a health issue with him. Acting on the advise of Dr. Robert Miller, she feels that she can no longer treat this patient, as the letter so advises. The Board approved the letter and instructed that a copy be sent to Town Counsel.

The Board approved a letter to be sent to tight tank owners informing them of the Title 5 regulation requiring annual pumping of their tight tank. (See minutes from April 10th.) Ms. Quinn was directed to check to make sure the two property owners with tight tanks have recorded deed restrictions relative to the tanks.

Chairman Phelps has researched the policies adopted by other towns relative to issuance of licenses to septic system installers. Some of the requirements include a written test on Title 5 requirements administered by the local board or their health agent; completion of a Title 5 course offered by the Tri-Town Health Services in Lee, MA; references from other towns in which a current licenses has been issued and evidence of a valid hoisters license appropriate to the equipment being used. Fees range from $100 in Heath to $75 in Ashfield. The Board took the matter under consideration until still more information is obtained; such as finding out if DEP offers any courses or certifications.

It was noted that the following deadlines are coming up for septic system repairs:

Petersen (252 Zoar Road)	June 30, 2001*
Carlow (42 Ford Hill Road)	July 31, 2001*
Corarito (162 Zoar Road)	August 31, 2001
Clancy (12 County Road)	September 30, 2001*
Corarito (96 Ford Hill Road)	October 26, 2001

*System installation has already received one (or more) extension and no further extensions are permitted by Title 5 regulations.

Title 5 regulations do not permit more than one extension period for the repair/replacement of failed systems.

Ms. Foberg reported that Bob Clancy contacted her to see if the permission of the Board of Health was required prior to installation of a curtain drain on his property. Property owners do not need the approval of the Board of Health for a curtain drain. Ms. Foberg will let inform Mr. Clancy that he is free to go ahead with the work at his convenience.

Chairman Phelps spoke to Park Commissioner Bill Loomis relative to the bathing beach water testing policy. Tests will be performed in three areas (left of beach area near storm drain, beach area within ropes and to the right of the swimming area near Giard cottage. If an event occurs that requires the swimming area be closed, it is the responsibility of the Board of Health. Signs will be obtained or made and kept at both the Park and the Town Hall. Signs must be placed at the entrance, the parking area and the beach.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Mary Jo Phelps, Chairman

Ellen L. Foberg

Geoffrey N. Bagley