Town of Rowe – FY2005
Board of Health
Minutes – January 31, 2005

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM

Present: Dick Alix, Angela Foshay, Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar

OLD BUSINESS

Rowe Camp & Conference Center: RC&CC had earlier approached the Board requesting they be permitted to bring their recyclables to the Town Refuse Gardens. Present regulations regarding the Town's facilities state that no businesses are permitted to use the Refuse Gardens. Town Counsel recommended contacting other towns in western Massachusetts to see how they handle business waste. Danette Reynolds contacted several towns and informed the Board that businesses, profit and non-profit, are responsible for the disposal of their own wastes and do not use the town's facilities (the exception being the town of Peru which charges a camp in their town $460.00 to use the town's facilities for 2 months). Following discussion, a motion was made to maintain the present policy of restricting use of the Refuse Gardens to residents only. Dick Alix and Danette Reynolds voted in favor of the motion. Angela Foshay made no comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Licenses: The following licenses were approved and payment received for:

Rowe Camp & Conference Center farmhouse kitchen	Food Establishment License
Bostley Sanitary Service	Pumper/hauler

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar

Approved:

Richard Alix, Chairman

Angela Foshay

Danette Reynolds-Gallaghar

Dissenting opinion by Angela Foshay to be appended to the minutes of the Board of Health meeting January 31, 2005

With reference to the vote to refuse the Rowe Camp and Conference Center access to our Transfer Station for the disposal of their recyclables, I believe that the reasons for refusal are unfounded. I list them as follows:

1. It will cost the Town money.

Irrelevant, because they want to arrange to pay whatever extra cost would be incurred, even though they are a tax-exempt educational institution.

2. Regulations say it is for Town residents only, and the Conference Center is a business, not a resident.

Irrelevant, because certainly this was to prevent use by residents of neighboring towns, not to prevent our resident business enterprises from using the transfer station. There is no regulation preventing us from letting the Conference Center bring their recyclables to the transfer station for a fee.

3. They might not sort it properly and loads would be refused.

Irrelevant, because if there is a problem it can be corrected. There is no record of any loads being refused in the past, even when the Conference Center was bringing all of their discarded material to the Transfer Station. Since teaching about protecting our planet's resources is part of the focus of the programs at the Conference Center, they were recycling even before it was the law. Jan Ameen has offered to send a staff member to train the Conference Center staff.

4. The amount of material they bring may vary widely throughout the year.

.Irrelevant, because we do not have regularly scheduled pick-ups. Our attendant telephones for a pick-up when a bin is full.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Fraley Foshay