

**Acton Board of Health**

**September 13, 2010**

**Members Present:** William McInnis, Vice Chairman, Joanne Bissetta, Member, William Taylor, Member and Michael Kreuze, Associate Member.

**Staff Present:** Justin Snair, Environmental Health Agent and Peter Fellows

**Others Present:** Peggy Mikkola, Gina Boldizar, Tom Vikmirouots and Lee Edmands

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm

Mr. Kreuze will be voting due to the vacant seat on the Board of Health.

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated July 12, 2010, as amended.

On a motion made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated August 23, 2010.

**HEARING – 27 SCHOOL ST, APT 3**

On behalf of the property owner, Ms. Lee Edmands requested an appeal to the housing order letter dated August 17, 2010, on the basis that access to the property has not been granted. The Board determined that sufficient evidence has been provided, indicating due diligence by the Owner of Record or Heir(s) to correct the violations as ordered in the August 17, 2010 Acton Board of Health Violation Order and unanimously voted to continue the order until such time that access to the apartment in question can be achieved.

On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to continue the hearing without finding. The Board of Health violation order will be held in abeyance until the Board issues a finding.

**ANNUAL PERMITTING FEES**

Mr. Snair presented to the Board an overview of the proposed Conditioned Approval Permitting process. He stated that often the Board of Health permit approvals are subject to various conditions that require periodic submittals of specific documents, showing compliance. Usually, with the use of an Innovative / Alternative septic system, homeowners are required to have an operation and maintenance contract, annually, for the life of the system. The Health Department has estimated approximately 150 – 200 sites that had an approved project granted with conditions that require periodic submittal of evidence of compliance.

Many of these sites have not submitted evidence of compliance as required. In order to ensure ongoing compliance with Board of Health approval, the Health Department proposes the following:

- By January 31<sup>st</sup>, of each year, sites with systems, components, or operations that were granted a conditioned approval must apply for a Board of Health Conditioned Approval Permit.
- Application for the proposed permit will include any evidence required by the conditions of the original Board of Health Approval.
- Proposed \$75-\$100 permit fee to cover the cost of administrative and application review time.

The Board suggested introducing either a document fee or a fine for non-compliance, as homeowners may not respond to a new permit. Additionally, the Board stated they would like to see the operations and maintenance providers licensed on an annual basis.

Before any action is taken, the Board would like to assess how the permitting process is completed in different towns.

No vote taken

**APHNS – REVISION TO PUBLISHED CHARGES**

In the recently approved “Published Charges”, Speech Therapy had been set at \$130 which is below the Medicare CY 11 rate. The correct amount should have been \$150.

On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the revision to the “Published Charges” dated August 23, 2010.

**BOARD OF SELECTMAN OVERSIGHT**

Discussion ensued

**Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:42PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Isabel Roberts, Health Secretary  
Acton Board of Health



Mark Conoby, Chairman  
Acton Board of Health