

Board of Health
Meeting Minute
September 12, 2013

6:30 p.m.-	<p>Call to Order – Present , Donna Clark, Allen Hoffman, Gary Menin and David Favreau</p> <p>Monthly Update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. David Favreau stated that they had 26 food permits for the Fair and all went smoothly; no issues.2. Board signed Certificate of Compliance for 21 Newell Hill Road, 36 Swett Hill Road, 72 Kendall Hill Road.3. Board issued and signed a construction permit for 33 Muddy Pond Road.4. David Favreau presented copy of an e-mail that he received from Bobbi Cugno of 133 Rowley Hill Road thanking him for the assistance that he and the BOH office provided, and the prompt attention to their septic system replacement process. <p>Approval of Monthly Minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. July 11, 2013 – continued until next board meeting.2. August 15, 2013 – Gary Menin wanted to add his comments regarding East Lake Waushacum to the minutes; however, Allen Hoffman stated that Gary Menin’s comments were out of order since he wasn’t present during the August 15th meeting; therefore, Gary Menin comments couldn’t be included in the August Minutes. Gary Menin’s comments are attached to these minutes. Allen Hoffman made a motion to approve minutes of August 15, 2013 as amended, Donna Clark seconded, no discussion, Allen Hoffman aye, Donna Clark aye, Gary Menin abstained. Gary Menin expressed his dissatisfaction with the Board deciding in his (emergency) absence to “move on” from the Lake Waushacum septic contamination issue. Donna Clark and Allen Hoffman responded that Mrs. Roberti and Matt Marro were in attendance and deserved to have the opportunity to answer Gary Menin’s prior comments. Mrs. Roberti and Matt Mauro presented written statistical data responding to Gary Menin prior comments. This data has been presented in hand to all Board members and date stamped September 10, 2013. <p>Board of Health e-mail and phone procedures</p> <p>Allen Hoffman suggested that e-mails, phone calls, and any such requests should be directed to the Board of Health office and distributed from there. All agreed that this was a good idea. At this time, Allen Hoffman brought up his concern of e-mails being changed by Gary Menin. Allen Hoffman stated that as presented it looked like the complaint was coming from a board member and not the resident. Gary Menin stated that he did not change the context of the issue, but just removed e-mail addresses for clarity.</p>
7:00 p.m.	Public Session - None

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<p>7:10 p.m. Discussion of Application, Permit and Inspection Procedures</p>	<p>Allen Hoffman stated that the Board met with L.R. Favreau Septic System on August 26, 2013 as they felt they were having problems getting Septic Permits in a timely manner.</p> <p>Permits have always been signed by the Board during their monthly meetings. Signatures on permits and Certificates of Compliance have been dependant on when such requests have been submitted to the BOH office relative to the meeting date. David Favreau stated that all past signatures for L.R. Favreau Septic Systems have been presented to the Board and signed by the Board Members.</p> <p>The Montachusett Public Health Network, of which Sterling Board of Health belongs, will perform inspections that pose a conflict of interest. All applications shall continue to be processed through the Board of Health office for tracking, scheduling and maintaining completeness of files.</p> <p>Discussion continued as to the length of time a septic permit can be processed. The Board stated that at this time it is unknown.</p> <p>Gary Menin suggested to Favreau Septic to do a test case to see if the process is done in a timely manner.</p> <p>L.R. Favreau agreed to schedule an inspection request. Discussion will continue at the Board's next meeting on October 10, 2013 at 7:10 pm.</p> <p>Gary Menin requested that our agent's "disclosure statement" be presented to fully understand how these conflicting interests have been/are being addressed. Allen Hoffman agreed.</p>
<p>20 Fox Run</p>	<p>Complaint update: zoning/noise and dumping of contaminants: David Favreau said Mark Brodeur, Sterling Building Inspector, recently issued a cease and desist order for a zoning violation.</p> <p>Resulting from a written complaint of contaminate dumping, on September 6, 2013, David Favreau went to the residence and officially introduced himself to the owner, Robert Nobrega. David Favreau asked permission to walk around and view the property. David Favreau stated he found no evidence of any contaminants. David Favreau stated that at this time it is a civil matter.</p>
<p>Wekepeke Water Source</p>	<p>Gary Menin's idea for the Town of Sterling to take ownership of the Wekepeke Water Source. Gary Menin stated that Clinton has not paid the Pilot in several years and that maybe they can take ownership this way. After discussion, it was agreed that this has to come from the Board of Selectman. Members of the Board agreed to meet with the Selectman at their September 25, 2013 meeting to discuss the issue.</p>
<p>Regionalization</p>	<p>Update: Inter Municipal Agreement review and comments presented by Town Counsel. The Board also stated that the agreement shall be signed by the Board of Selectman at the upcoming meeting 9/25/13 BOS. All Board Members stated that it might be a good idea to meet with the Finance Committee prior to budget season beginning to keep them informed as to our request.</p>

<p>8:20pm</p>	<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>
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To: Sterling BOH

From: Gary C. Menin, Sr.

Subject: East Lake Waushacum

As I was not able to attend the August meeting, I'm not providing any comments as to the accuracy and completeness of those minutes as I would ordinarily do. However – I am offering this statement which I ask be attached to the August minutes as part of the record.

Based on my previous essay (*East Lake Waushacum Alum Copper Sulfate . pdf*) response to Barbara Roberti of ELWA and to the BOH prior to the August meeting – I am disappointed that the Board has decided to close this issue.

Please note that the previous Board (*with Stan Selkow as de facto chair*) considered – just as I presently do – that algaecide application is treating a symptom not the cause – and we did not support it. The only difference now is that I believe we should make our position public. The proposed Town Meeting article to permit the application of a new and far more toxic agent (Copper Sulfate) is what prompted my initiative.

Not to belabor further discussion as decided by the Board, but I am compelled to respond to two points pushed by ELWA as stated in the proposed August minutes:

- (1) In the face of apparent comments by ELWA members that water quality has improved – it begs the question as to why then, for the need for this new and highly toxic treatment regimen?
- (2) As to their comment that my data was outdated, I present this March 24, 2011 quote of Dave Worden of the DCR Div. of Water Supply Protection to Barbara Roberti of ELWA:

"Hi Barbara - Based on my review of the excellent diagnostic/feasibility study by R. McVoy I have no doubt that the conclusions reached ... are still valid. The main conclusion being that near-shore septic systems are the main source of phosphorus inputs to the lake. Given this situation, it is appropriate to pursue construction of a localized sewer project of the type you mentioned during our telephone conversation. The algaecide copper sulfate is the only other alternative that is available to suppress suspended algae in a lake the size of ELW, but I'm sure you don't care to risk another snail kill."

The BOH decision to move on from my concerns notwithstanding, I (*as an educator and private citizen*) am soliciting student involvement – in the form of a year-long project (*which I will mentor*) to study the eutrophication history and future water quality prospects of East Lake Waushacum (*a highly populated lake*) with the comparably sized and fully undeveloped Long Pond of Rutland.