



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH**

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BOARD OF HEALTH

Alan R. Sousie, Chair • Fernand C. Crete • Ian C. Galbraith • Mary D. Hart • James Vos

BOARD STAFF ASSISTANT

Britta Mainello

HEALTH OFFICER

Kathleen Butler

**Minutes
BOARD OF HEALTH
April 7, 2008**

The meeting was commenced at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 7, 2008 at the DPW Conference Room, 645 Pine Street, Burlington. Present were Chair Sousie; Member's Crete, Galbraith, Hart and Vos; Staff Assistant Mainello. Other's present: Joel Fitzgerald of Burlington School District, Attorney Joe McNeil of Burlington School District, Chris Giard of Burlington School District, Jeanne Collins of Burlington School District and Austin Sumner Vermont Department of Health.

1. Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Motion to accept minutes by Vos, seconded by Hart. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Burlington High School (BHS) Air Quality Concerns

Chair Sousie opened discussion by stating that the board invited School Board members, School Administrators, Burlington Education Association members, parents and students, and representatives from the Vermont Department of Health. Chair Sousie stated that the board would like to be informed of what is happening in regards to this matter, what is being done, what the results are and who is involved in the process. Chair Sousie further went on to say that he understood the restrictions of arbitration period at this time and recognized that not all parties are able to speak freely on this matter. Nonetheless, Chair Sousie stated that the board has the authority to oversee the school inspection program and has been diligent in their attempts to work with Giard on school inspections. Overall, the board would like reassurance that the proper parties are addressing the current issues surrounding the air quality at the high school and school inspections are conducted on a regular basis.

McNeil stated that he is grateful for this opportunity to address the board. McNeil assured the board that the administration is aggressively researching what can be done to ensure that BHS will be a healthy and safe facility. Furthermore, McNeil stated there have been air quality concerns in the past and the school administration has addressed these issues in a timely manner. The present concern of air quality has again led the administration to hire outside consultants to test the air quality at the high school. The administration takes these concerns very seriously and in the last three years has spent approximately forty thousand dollars on testing.

Further discussion among the board and other's present in regards to the specifics of the regulations and testing results.

In conclusion, the board is satisfied with the approach the administration has taken to address the air quality concerns. The board also understands that managing air quality is a challenge; there are air quality regulations under Occupation Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Vermont Occupation Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA) which the school has complied with. In addition to the OSHA and VOSHA regulations there are ASHRAE regulations which are not health based, but are comfort based which are hard to enforce. Chair Sousie stated that the board would explore a protocol that would address the gaps in the regulations.

4. Pesticide Ordinance

a.) Board Revisions of the ordinance:

Chair Sousie redrafted the introduction of the ordinance. Hart expressed her concern on some to the wording. Instead of reworking the document on the spot and in the interest of time, Butler stated that she would like to request permission of the board to amend some of the language and implement some key information. Board motion to approve, motion passed unanimously.

b.) Ward 4 and 7 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA) presentation:

Chair Sousie stated that the board has been invited to attend and present at NPA for Ward 4&7 on May 15, 2008. The NPA meeting has allotted twenty minutes for the board. Chair Sousie stated that he would like to use ten minutes to present and the last ten minutes for question and answer. Chair Sousie stated that the intent of this presentation is to provide education of chemical use for ascetics and alternatives to this use. This is not about the revision of the ordinance.

c.) Education of upcoming growing season:

Butler stated that she would like Code to create an educational pamphlet and have it available for the public and possibly do a mailing with this information.

5. Chair's Report

a.) Fluoride Pamphlet Distribution: The board made a motion to empower Mainello to find an inexpensive printer and have ten thousand pamphlets printed. Motion to approve Hart, seconded by Vos. Once the ten thousand documents are printed they will be inserted in the water bills for a mass distribution.

b.) Board Membership Status and Recruitment Needs:

Chair Sousie stated term expiration dates: Crete and Vos membership terms expire June 2008. Both Crete and Vos stated that will be reapplying.

d.) Hookah Rule:

Chair Sousie stated that he had contacted Gene Bergman on the status of the rule. Bergman explained that he had been extremely busy and will push for this coming month.

e.) Virus Attack Locally and Globally:

Chair Sousie reported to the board that pandemic flu is an increasing concern and advised that all members take a look at the World Health Organization web site.

6. Member's Report

Vos presented the board with an endorsement proposal of an organization. Chair Sousie stated that he was uncertain if the board could endorse an outside organization. Chair Sousie requested Mainello to research and report to the board at the next meeting.

7. Staff Report

Mainello stated that the next meeting would be held at Contois Auditorium on May 15th.

There being no further business, Vos motioned to close the meeting. Motion approved unanimously.