



**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

Margaret Van Brunt

HEALTH OFFICER

Kathleen Butler

**BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2008**

The meeting was commenced at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 645 Pine Street in the Department of Public Works Front Conference Room. Present were Chair Sousie; Members Crete, Hart and Vos; Health Officer Butler and Staff Assistant Van Brunt.

1. Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda. Motion to proceed accepted by consensus.

2. Minutes:

Chair Sousie gave brief summary of minutes from BOH meeting in July 2008. Motion to accept July minutes by Vos, seconded by Crete. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Member Reports

Member Hart stated that she submitted the grant application to the Grassroots Environment Fund as discussed in previous meetings. Chair Sousie stated that a decision should be made in December, when they meet to discuss our region. Member Hart stated she indicated on the application that a response should go to Chair Sousie. A copy of the grant application was given to Staff Assistant Van Brunt to keep on file.

Member Vos stated that October is Domestic Violence month and that he plans to arrange a lead program to air in November or December. Vos stated he hopes to have staff from CEDO and possibly a family and a landlord who have been helped by the lead program.

Member Crete stated he wished to commend Member Hart on compiling and submitting the grant application.

4. Public Forum

Seeing that no members of the public were present, Chair Sousie opened and closed the Public Forum.

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5. Chairman's Report

a. Board Recruitment

Chair Sousie stated a wish to remind Board Members of the need to look for someone to replace Chair Sousie and other members in the future, but with particular emphasis on finding someone for the Chairmanship. Chair Sousie stated that the possibility of rotating the Chairmanship was discussed last year, but that he would advise against this as he believes the Chair requires a person who is readily available to Health Officer Butler when needed. Chair Sousie stated he believes it is a good idea to look for new people to join the Board, that new members would bring new view points to the Board. Chair Sousie encouraged the Members to reach out to those they believe might be interested. Chair Sousie also reminded the Board that the constitution still requires a Nurse Practitioner, Physician, or P.A. to serve on the Board of Health. Chair Sousie mentioned that the City Council still has the charter-change proposal that was submitted last year and that it may have been sent to an ordinance committee. Chair Sousie stated that City Attorney Ken Schatz, to whom the charter-change was originally given, assured Chair Sousie that he was going to pass the charter-change proposal through the ordinance committee and the charter committee. Chair Sousie concluded by encouraging Members to reach out to a Nurse Practitioner, Physician, or P.A. who might consider serving on this Board.

b. NPA (Neighborhood Planning Assemblies) Presentations Schedule

Chair Sousie stated he has been in contact and will continue to be in contact with other Wards throughout the City about presenting the Pesticide Ordinance and associated information. Chair Sousie stated he is working on getting something set up, hopefully for this winter.

c. Update: Status of Hookah Rule

Chair Sousie stated that he submitted the Hookah Rule proposal to the commissioner in August, but it was apparently never received. Chair Sousie stated he recently sent it to the commissioner again and that he will wait another month before attempting to contact the commissioner about it.

d. Consideration/Action: Lead Program Support Letter to Pediatricians

Chair Sousie asked Members to look over draft letter. Discussion followed regarding information Chair Sousie gathered from the Vermont Department of Health Lead Program pertaining to the typical schedule for lead screening in children (they are mostly screened at ages one and two years). Discussion also included the question of how and where to obtain a list of local physicians to whom the letter will be sent. It was agreed that Staff Assistant Van Brunt would contact the Medical Practice Board at 100 Cherry Street to inquire about obtaining a list of physicians. It was also agreed that Member Crete would look into obtaining a list from another source associated with the hospital. At this point attention was turned to editing the letter. Health Officer Butler stated the document should be edited for typing errors before sending. Member Hart suggested using the greeting "Dear Practitioner" as opposed to "Dear Doctor." It was agreed that the greeting will read "Dear Physicians and Practitioners." Motion made by Chair Sousie to accept editorial corrections and to send the

document to medical practices throughout the Greater Burlington area. Motion passed unanimously.

e. Consideration/Action: Support Letter for Burlington's Storm Water Program Development

Chair Sousie asked Members to look over draft letter in support of Burlington's Storm Water Program Development. Health Officer Butler suggested leaving the first paragraph out entirely; all Members agreed with this suggestion. Chair Sousie briefly mentioned other programs and organizations which have offered support for the Burlington Storm Water Program. Motion to submit support letter to Mayor Kiss with suggested amendments passed unanimously.

6. Pesticide Ordinance Matters

a. Consideration/Action: Chemlawn notification letters and information sheet
Health Officer Butler and Chair Sousie discussed status of Chemlawn documents and summarized that Chemlawn had been notified that contracts need to be renewed annually instead of carrying over each year because the Pesticide Ordinance requires there to be a new contract every year. Health Officer Butler and Chair Sousie stated that clarification is needed regarding the status of the document; Board of Health needs to know if Chemlawn intends to make the requested changes to the document. Health Officer Butler stated that Maurie Bartlett of Chemlawn had stated to her that Chemlawn was not apply anything in the 500-ft zone in Burlington.

b. Any current application requests

Health Officer Butler reported that there was a request for an application of Dylos at Centennial Field. Butler stated she was able to convince them to use a chemical-free treatment and that they are now withdrawing the request for Dylos and may resubmit a request at a later date. Chair Sousie noted that Health Officer Butler had also suggested to the applicants that they install an artificial turf. He commended Butler on her persistence. Chair Sousie commended the Board for the success of discouraging the use of Dylos at Centennial Field and noted that the Pesticide Ordinance is making a difference.

On a second matter, Member Crete reported that landscape bushes some of which may have been previously considered for treatment by the Board were removed at Fletcher Allen Health Care. It was noted that we have not received a long-term plan from the hospital defining its property management procedures although they had verbally committed to providing one.

c. Health Officer Update: Status of Draft Pesticide Ordinance

Health Officer Butler stated there will be a draft of the Pesticide Ordinance by the November meeting. Butler stated an intention to send the Draft Pesticide Ordinance to City Council following the November Board meeting.

Health Officer Butler presented issue of concern with use of unsafe heat sources in the upcoming months due to high cost of gas. Butler stated that a flyer regarding this issue was recently mailed out with electric bills, but it left out important information. Butler stated belief that people will be using wood stoves and fireplaces and some will be installing new

wood stoves. In installation cases, Butler stated it will be important to enforce the obtainment of a Building Permit to ensure the system is installed properly.

Health Officer Butler made the Board aware of a potential concern about an Ark being built from unconventional materials intended for launching on Lake Champlain and housing people for an extended period of time. Butler also mentioned that the issue of chickens in the city as being something the Board may be required to address in the near future as health concerns have been voiced by some citizens.

7. Adjournment

Chair Sousie called for adjournment. Member Vos moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Hart.