



Public Meeting

Caucus Hall

Thursday
January 6, 2011
4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Laurie Delmolino, Joe DiMartino,
and Elizabeth Williams.

Members Absent: Ken Janson, John Livingstone,
and Mark Phillips.

Staff: Brian Carlson Health Inspector
Jane Evans Health Agent

The meeting was called to order by Joe DiMartino at 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Public Comments

There weren't any.

New Business

Fine Arts Work Center – Margaret Murphy, Director Request for Rental Certificate Fee Waiver for Non-Profit Status

Margaret had approached Jane about a waiver for Rental Certificate fees as they are a non-profit organization. Fees are waived for deed restricted low income rental housing. Jane cautioned that this would be a precedent setting decision that the BoH makes and further said that it's important that a lot of thought goes into their decision.

Jane also said that an analysis was done on what it actually cost the Health Department to do the inspections. They came up with \$120 and the permit would be good for three years. Thus the cost is \$120 for 1st unit and an additional \$50 for each additional unit at the same address.

Joe DiMartino asked how many non-profits there were in town and speculated that they may very well be the only ones. He said that he would be in favor of granting the waiver because he felt that these are not the people causing rental problems.

Betty Williams disagreed and felt that it would open up a Pandora's box. She also felt that the fees were certainly affordable compared to what they were before.

Laurie Delmolino was in agreement with Betty Williams.

Jane said that granting this waiver could have impacts on other department fees if we set a precedent.

Joe called for a motion.

Motion: Move that the request from the FAWC for a waiver for the fees for rental inspection certificates be denied.

Motion: Betty Williams Seconded: Laurie DelMolino Vote: 3-0-0.

Discussion

Joe asked Jane for a follow-up on the issue discussed at the last executive session of the BoH. Jane said that the Board's decision was sent to the attorney and, as yet, nothing has been heard.

Approval of Minutes

Joe was not comfortable voting on the minutes since we did not have present the majority of the members who were in attendance for those meetings.

Health Agent's Report

Jane Evans – in response to an article which appeared in the Banner – apprised the BoH of cleanliness issues at the local Laundromat. When the Request for Proposals was advertised – certain requirements were stipulated.

One of the stipulations was to have an attendant on duty at all times, or an alternate approved plan and another was to have a handicapped accessible bathroom for patrons. At present, there are no bathroom facilities available and no attendant on duty during hours of operation.

Jane had inspected the facility and found it dirty with inoperable change machines and a myriad of other infractions. She noticed that nowhere was there any phone number, owner's number, or any one to contact in case of a problem. She made signs with the owner's name and number, put them up, and within a short time they were removed.

Jane also reported that she had received a complaint about the Stop and Shop. The complaint included no heat in the produce prep area at this time of year and 90 degree heat in the summer, mold and mice in the store, the floor drains in the produce prep area were backing up and there were maggots during the summer by the dumpster outside. Jane investigated and said that most of the complaints were unsubstantiated. She found a few things amiss and they were going to be corrected immediately by a very cooperative staff. Jane also noted that in the two years of operation – this was the first complaint received about the Stop and Shop.

Health Inspector's Report

Brian Carlson reported on a problem with the living quarters of a person. It was reported through the COA and determined that the living conditions weren't safe for this particular individual. Brian hasn't visited yet but is going to look at temporary housing for the individual until the case is resolved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Board Members' Statements

There were none.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by _____ on _____, 2011.
Joe DiMartino, Acting Chair