

HEALTH DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES of JANUARY 31, 2007
Durham Town Hall

Call to Order and Attendance

Selectwoman/Chairperson Maryann P. Boord called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
In attendance: Members Dede Levy, Karen Buckley-Bates, Donia Viola and Bill Milardo and one member of the media, Peter Downs of The Hartford Courant.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by K. Buckley-Bates to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 18, 2007

Second by D. Levy. Vote – All ayes.

Proposed Meetings with Health District Boards

Committee members will attend meetings with the Boards of the Connecticut River Area Health District and the East Shore Health District on February 8, 2007. The first meeting will be held in Old Saybrook and the second meeting will be held in Branford.

Member Dr. Leo Willett arrived at 6:14 pm.

Review of Draft Cost Calculations for Districting

Pamela Kilbey-Fox, CT Department of Public Health, developed packets of information concerning projected costs for districting scenarios 3,4,5 & 6 for use by the members. The reasons to limit the choices to scenarios 1 & 2 were reiterated. Chairperson M. Boord prefers a consensus or unanimous decision when making a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. If the Board of Selectmen approves the recommendation, the proposal will be taken to Town Meeting where the public will require answers to their questions prior to a vote.

Member K. Buckley-Bates had to leave the meeting at 6:30 pm

Dr. Willett gave a brief chronology of his tenure with the Health Department and believes that the majority of the citizens are satisfied with the Health Department despite the Connecticut Department of Public Health's push for full-time local directors of health and expanded programming.

Discussion Concerning Questions to be presented to the Health District Boards

D. Levy stressed that any concerns should be brought to the Boards of Health and that the committee needs to properly frame its questions. Questions will pertain to fee schedules, a satellite office, the Durham Fair, programs, etc. An in-depth discussion took place concerning the operation of the Durham Fair, inspections of its food service vendors and the costs associated with the inspections. Committee members want a comparison of fees assessed on Durham activities/programs based on the fee schedules utilized by the Health Districts. B. Milardo will work on said comparison. D. Viola has questions concerning performance efficiencies of health district directors and health department full-time directors.

Availability of Programs Through the Town of Durham's Human Services Department

D. Levy provided a list of services offered by the Human Services Department. D. Levy wants to be assured that duplication of service is avoided if Durham joins a health district.

Preparation of the Report to the Board of Selectmen

The deadline for the report of recommendation to the Board of Selectman has been extended to the end of February 2007. The content of the opening paragraph was discussed.

Next Meeting is Scheduled for February 15 at 6:15 pm

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Willett. Second by D. Levy. Vote - All ayes. Meeting adjourned by Selectwoman/Chairperson Board at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by William R. Milardo, Jr.