

CONNECTICUT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Wednesday May 10, 2006

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association was held on Wednesday May 10, 2006 at the Farmington Town Hall Farmington, CT. The following voting members were in attendance: Sands Cleary, Cam Walden, Robert Guerrera, Mike Pascucilla (1:15 PM), David Rogers, Gil Roberts, Robin Sleeman, Joe Hock, Scott Cook, Phyllis Amodio and David Knauf. The following non-voting members were also present: Marco Palmeri and Vicky Carrier.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:22 P.M. by President Sands Cleary.

Secretary's Report - Approval of minutes.

Motion by Robin Sleeman to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2006 regular meeting.
Second by Scott Cook. Motion carried.

President's Report/Strategic Planning

President Cleary reported that the on line member survey is being assembled and should be completed by the end of May. He plans to test it internally (with the Board) before putting it out to the members. He is still looking for questions to include in the survey and brought up the idea of an incentive for completing the survey. Scott Cook asked if it would be a long survey and Sands indicated it would probably take 10 minutes or so to complete. Many Board members were not in favor of a gift that is not related to environmental or public health. Rob Guerrera asked what types of things would be related to the job. Some members questioned the value of the information if the survey is done only to qualify for a prize. Sands noted that we would need to get about 160 responses for the survey to be statistically valid and he thinks there needs to be some kind of incentive to generate that many responses. Robin suggested trying the survey first without a prize and going back later with a prize if need be. David Knauf thought seeing what the results would be without a prize would be interesting on their own. Sands is planning to advertise the survey in the newsletter and by e-mail where we have valid e-mail addresses.

David Knauf suggested offering a full package to the 2006 Yankee Conference would promote professionalism in the membership and would make an appropriate prize.

Motion by David Knauf to offer a full 2006 Yankee Conference package (registration and lodging) as an incentive to complete the member survey (Board members not eligible).
Second by Joe Hock. Motion passed 7 in favor, 3 opposed.

Sands has been contacted by Paul Hutcheon about some type of recognition from CEHA for Bob Cosgrove who is retiring. Bob is a long time CEHA member and was active on several CEHA committees. The issue of identifying retired members was once again raised. There is a need to find out who the retiring members are so they can be considered for honorary memberships.

Motion by David Knauf to award an Honorary Membership to Bob Cosgrove and authorize the President to issue a proclamation (or similar document) to Bob for his many years of service to CEHA.

Second by Phyllis Amodio. Motion carried unanimously.

Sands noted that there hasn't been success in recruiting candidates for elective office. Nominations have been received for Secretary and Director but there is no nominee for Vice President. A discussion on the roles and responsibilities of the various positions followed. Sands and Rob have some potential candidates in mind but none have committed to run.

Motion by Scott Cook to extend the deadline for nominations to June 14th.

Second by David Knauf.

Cam Walden said that his reading of the bylaws was that the Nominations and Elections committee has until 4 months before the Annual Meeting to submit as slate of candidates to the Board and that an extension was not needed. Following discussion, the motion was withdrawn. The Nominations and Elections committee was charged with finding candidates for election by early July.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer was not in attendance, so there was no report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Brad was not in attendance, so there was no report. Robin volunteered to help update the e-mail address list and to work on developing policies and procedures for CEHA. President Cleary indicated he would like her to serve on the Bylaws Committee, who has the job of developing policies and procedures.

Scholarship – Sands reported that 3 applications have been sent out so far.

Legislation – Scott Cook distributed a written report. The revisions to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention regulations did not pass, having been killed in the Appropriations Committee. Other bills of interest: RB #5440 requiring disclosure of VOCs in private well water is pending approval by the Governor and HB # 5792, which would have required testing of private wells during property transfers did not advance. SB #294 broadens the types of food that can be sold at farmer's markets to include eggs, meat, milk, cheese shellfish and other foods. Other parts of the bill seem to place farmer's markets under the regulatory authority of the local health department, but the impact of the bill is unclear at this time. Scott will research this issue further. Scott is also following a bill concerning the seizure of milk products by the Dept. of Agriculture and one concerning the labeling of foods, which stalled in the US Congress.

Publicity – The next issue of the newsletter should be in mid June. It needs to be mailed out not later than June 25th to promote summer meeting. Robin indicated that more ink is needed for the printer, as the last issue used up most of it.

Motion by Joe Hock to authorize the purchase of more ink for the printer.

Second by Scott Cook. Motion carried.

Nominations/Elections – Reported in the President's report.

Education – Phyllis Amodio is looking for ideas for the Annual Meeting. Vicky Carrier suggested a presentation on the hazards of meth labs and Robin suggested a session on ethnic foods. David Knauf would like to have a training on well water treatment and hoarding, if not as part of the Annual Meeting, then in another forum. Phyllis said that Anthony's Ocean View is available again in early November and will be the same cost as last year.

Motion by David Knauf to authorize Phyllis to reserve Anthony's for the first week in November for the Annual Meeting.

Second by Joe Hock. Motion carried.

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Sands would like to use some of CEHA's financial resources to book a top quality speaker for the Annual Meeting. Some potential speakers were discussed. The costs would likely include airfare, hotel etc. Dave Rogers questioned if there would be enough money to do this on a regular basis. Sands thought the savings realized by printing the newsletter in house would provide the necessary funding. Sands was directed to explore the financial implications of doing this.

Phyllis asked about having items to give away again this year. She will follow up on this. Marco would like CEHA to produce an ID card for members that has the member's certifications on it. This would be of value to those who do not have an ID issued by their employer. A discussion followed about the liability issues CEHA might have in producing a card like this. Some members wondered if there would be enough value to make it worthwhile. No action was taken.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Food – The co-chairs were not in attendance, but a written report was submitted. The Food Committee met on April 27, 2006 in Rocky Hill. A Food Safety Advisory Group has been formed by the Commissioner to advise the Food Protection Program. The committee members questioned the difference between the CEHA group and the DPH group and want to know what the focus of the CEHA committee should be. Other topics discussed were CEUs and different types of training, topics for the summer meeting, LHD inspections and enforcement of the PHC and a new Food Safety Training manual for food workers. The next meeting will be June 5th in Rocky Hill.

Housing/Pb – Brian Testut has transferred to the DPH Lead Program, but will continue on as CEHA Lead committee chair.

Water – The committee's last meeting was on April 27th. The next planned meeting will be a joint meeting with the Subsurface Sewage Disposal committee on June 8, 2006. The Water Systems Council will be returning to Connecticut in the fall and a tentative list of topics is being discussed. The time and location have yet to be determined. Also in the planning stages, is a seminar on public drinking water system creation and source protection on October 24th in Hartford. The Drinking Water Section is working with CADH on providing training for LHD personnel on TNC and NTNC water system issues.

Summer Meeting- The Summer Meeting has been set for July 27th at Quassy Amusement Park from 11:00 AM on. The DPH FPP will give an educational session from 11-12 that will provide 1 contact hour for certification. Marco needs to send in a deposit to formalize the contract.

Motion by David Knauf to authorize a deposit in the amount of \$500 for the contract.

Second by Joe Hock. Motion carried.

Sands would like to send out save the date cards ASAP. Marco reported that Quassy is willing to help out with the publicity. He will develop a registration form that can be put up on the website and sent out as well.

RS/CEUs – Eloise Hudd, who has been heading this up has been deployed to Iraq until August 1st. The committee will be inactive until then.

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Bylaws – Robin Sleeman, David Knauf and Dave Rogers have agreed to serve on this committee. As Immediate Past President, Mike Pascucilla will chair the committee.

Subsurface Sewage – Don Mitchell was not in attendance, but David Knauf indicated the next meeting would be on or about May 17th. To be discussed is a General Permit for water treatment systems. DEP is proposing a separate disposal system that is 1.5 times the size of the discharge. Applicants would have to submit a sketch to the LHD, but there would be no separate permit.

Yankee Conference – Joe Hock has nothing new to report.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

The Yale Center for Public Health Preparedness is asking for a copy of the CEHA mailing list. They would like to send the first two issues of their newsletter to the members at no charge. There was no objection to doing this, but it was noted that the use of the CEHA mailing list is an issue that should be addressed in a policy/procedure manual.

Sands noted that the NEHA AEC is coming up and CEHA usually makes a contribution to the Silent Auction each year. There was a discussion on possible items that would be contributed.

Motion by Robin Sleeman to authorize \$100 for the purchase of an item for the NEHA Silent Auction.

Second by Mike Pascucilla. Motion carried. Sands will obtain a suitable item.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Joe Hock to adjourn at 3:18 P.M.

Second by David Knauf. Motion carried.

The next CEHA Executive Board meeting will be on June 14, 2006 at Middletown Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rogers
Secretary

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