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Respectfully submitted,

Marcia B. Rising, Chair
Betty Cormier
Sylvia Daley
Theora S. Cole, Administrative Assistant
Cynthia Colosi, Administrative Assistant

Lynn Fishman, Clerk
John P. Wallace, Health Agent
Susan Latham, Animal Control Officer
Phyllis Tower, Animal Inspector

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals had an unusual year with two applications for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit and two for amendment of previously granted Chapter 40B Permits. The first were filed by Stow Elderly Housing Corp. for Plantation II, 37 units of supportive housing, and for amendment of the Plantation I permit for the adjacent Plantation Apartments off Great Road. The hearings were opened in August and closed a month later. The Chapter 40B Permit and the amended Plantation I permit were granted in November after extensions for filing beyond the 40-day period required by law. The decisions are currently under appeal by an abutter.

The second Chapter 40B applications were filed by Stow Community Housing Corp. in late July for 30 family housing rental units, Pilot Grove II, off Warren Road and for amendment of the Pilot Grove I permit. Those hearings were closed in October and, with extensions, the decisions granting both permits were filed in December.

Other unusual business before the Board included four separate filings in March by the Stow Elementary School Building Committee for variances related to the Center-Pompo School construction project. All were granted.

- Hearings for Variance: 10 - all granted.
- Hearing for Special Permits: 7 - all granted
- Hearings for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permits: 2 - both granted
- Hearings for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit Modifications: 2 - both granted

The year ended with the Board continuing to hear the application for variance filed by Star Tower Co. and T-Mobile Northeast to allow a cell tower on the Wedgewood Pines Country Club property off Harvard Road. The hearing opened in September, was closed in January 2011 and resulted in a denial.

The Board once again bade farewell to a long-time member. Art Lowden retired and moved from Stow after serving for almost 40 years. His wise counsel is greatly missed.

The Board of Appeals meets on the first Monday of each month, as needed, in the Town Building. Applications may be obtained from the Town Clerk's office or the Town's web page. Information regarding procedure may be obtained by contacting Catherine Desmond, Secretary to the Board.

Respectfully, submitted,

Arthur R. Lowden, retired
John Clayton, Jr., Clerk
Edmund C. Tarnuzzer, Jr.
Michele L. Shoemaker
Charles A. Barney, Associate
Lee Heron, Associate

William F. Byron, Jr., Associate
Bruce E. Fletcher, Associate
Ruth K. Sudduth, Associate
Andrew J. DeMore, Associate

Catherine A. Desmond, Secretary

TOWN SERVICES

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Stow Agricultural Commission is charged with maintaining the viability of agriculture in Stow. This includes advising other Town boards on matters pertaining to agriculture, resolving conflicts between agriculture and residential uses, and promoting agriculture in town.

Residents are reminded that Stow has a right-to-farm bylaw, which reiterates State laws in our Town Bylaws. As part of this bylaw, we provide a notification form for use in transfers of property that lets people know that farms are active in Stow.

The Stow AgCom is working on an inventory of farms in town. At present we have a list of more than 20 families involved in agriculture. If you have a farm you want to be included in our inventory, please contact us. We can be contacted by mail at the Town Offices, 380 Great Road, or through our website <http://stowagcom.org>, or through the Agricultural Commission page on the Town website <http://www.stow-ma.gov>.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Martin-Sullivan
Liz Painter

Dwight Sipler
Kathy Steege

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department issued a total of 255 Building Permits in 2010. We inspected the construction of the Center School Phase I foundation and utility work, commercial expansion, new homes, kitchen & bath remodeling, home additions and wood & pellet stoves. Construction at Arbor Glen was completed, but Villages at Stow and Derby Woods continued at a steady pace. In the Lower Village, construction of the Shaw's Supermarket Addition and the Red Ginger