

Don Johnson

2/23 (9)

**From:** Mark Hald  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 24, 2005 12:01 PM  
**To:** Don Johnson; John Murray  
**Subject:** RE: Virus infected emails coming through the town system

Yes, I believe we can do the auto-reply. However, off the top of my head I have some questions:

Do we do this for every committee, or just "Exception" committees? Do we attach some disclaimer on every outbound message from Town?

We've actually discussed doing this some time ago. It wouldn't be bad to send something back to people, possibly non-staff, non-committee senders, that says the Town got your message, has forwarded it on to members who provided their e-mail to the Town, but there's no guarantee all received or read the message.

Implementing that with all the exceptions might require resources, including time and/or money.

As for "the virus," (in quotes because there are just so many. I think everybody is referring to why the LSC is getting "the virus") I've made some advances each of the past several days; I think it comes down to our filter needed some patches to keep up-to-date with the "latest" viruses. I applied those patches last night and am keeping my eye on the transmission of such e-mails through our server. None so far today.

We will chat further, but that's it in a nutshell.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Don Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 24, 2005 11:52 AM  
**To:** Mark Hald; John Murray  
**Subject:** RE: Virus infected emails coming through the town system

Mark:

Can we do the kind of thing that Dore' requests re automatic replies and I will need a briefing re the status of the virus, please.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mark Hald  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2005 10:03 AM  
**To:** Don Johnson; John Murray  
**Subject:** FW: Virus infected emails coming through the town system

FYI

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Linda McElroy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 23, 2005 8:46 AM  
**To:** Dore' Hunter  
**Cc:** Jim Snyder-Grant; Tom Tidman; Mark Hald  
**Subject:** Re: Virus infected emails coming through the town system

Hi Dore:

Thanks for your attention to the virus matter.

I hear that the hunt for the source of the virus continues, but that the virus itself has been neutralized. The obvious question that this flap raises is whether or not prospective volunteers for Acton committees who do not have computers or an email service will be prohibited/discouraged from volunteering. I think the town would not enforce

such a policy. If some are exempt, then should not all have that option?

While it may seem incomprehensible to some, particularly the technies, that persons like myself should raise an objection to having their e-addresses placed on such a list, I feel there is a privacy issue here.

Additionally, there is a rational basis for my position. I, too, was a software developer both in the very earliest generation of mainframe computers and later during a more sophisticated generation. I do understand how elusive bugs can develop, and I also know that even the best software designers occasionally find themselves in situations that stubbornly evade their intellects.

While some might not understand my recalcitrance in this matter, many generations of Yankee blood runs in my veins. Not only was I taught to take responsibility for all my actions and decisions, but I also remain fiercely independent after a long life during which that teaching has been vindicated many times.

I remain respectfully yours, Linda McElroy

----- Original Message -----

From: <DoreHunter@aol.com>

To: <manager@acton-ma.gov>; ""Linda McElroy"" <lsmcelroy@rcn.com>; <bos@acton-ma.gov>

Cc: ""Tom Tidman"" <ttidman@acton-ma.gov>; ""Mark Hald"" <mhald@acton-ma.gov>; ""Laurie Ullmann"" <lullmann@comcast.net>; ""Bob Guba"" <rfguba@comcast.net>; ""Rich Rhode"" <rrhode@eglobalreach.com>; ""Gigi Hopkins"" <dottyrogers@netscape.net>; ""Linda McElroy"" <lsmcelroy@rcn.com>; ""Peggy Liversidge"" <peggy@newview.org>; ""David Cochrane"" <pobc@RCN.com>; ""Paul Wasserboehr"" <paul.wasserboehr@verizon.net>; ""Murphy Cyril"" <murphycj@verizon.net>; ""Maura Herlihy"" <sialia53@earthlink.net>; ""Ann Shubert"" <amsatn@verizon.net>; ""Phil Keyes"" <philip.keyes@vdfnet.com>; ""Nan Millett"" <nan.millett@verizon.net>; ""Charlie Carlson"" <ccarlson@fomserv.com>

Sent: Friday, February 18, 2005 4:04 PM

Subject: Re: Virus infected emails coming through the town system

> Don,

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> See the forwarded message. Inasmuch as it has been the Board's, not just Mark Hald's, policy to put all Board and Committee members' email addresses into the appropriate shells so that citizens can freely communicate with them through a unitary address, I would like to have this matter again placed on the Board of Selectmen's Agenda, for the 28 February meeting if at all practical.

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> It might be helpful for our discussion of this matter to know

> whether or

> not it would be practical for the email shells to be so configured that an auto reply could be made by the server indicating that a particular member of the addressed Board or Committee had declined to have their email address in the system, and thus did not receive the particular message.

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> At the same time you might be ready to advise the Board what

> progress

> Mark has made in rooting out this particular virus, in a manner that will not help anyone devise anything malicious, of course.

>

> Regards,

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> F. Dore' Hunter (from Fort Myers, FL)

> Chairman, Board of Selectman, Town of Acton, MA

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