

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
April 9, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health of the Township of Mahwah, held at the Municipal Offices, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:40 PM by President, Sydney Harris.

The Opening Statement was read according to the Sunshine Law and was followed by Roll Call:

PRESENT: Mr. Harris
 Mrs. Spiech
 Dr. DeMaria
 Mr. Wasson

ABSENT: Mr. LaMontagne
 Mrs. DeSilva
 Mrs. Mertz

PROFESSIONALS: Mrs. Musella, Health Officer
 Mrs. Campbell, Secretary
 Mr. Mason, Attorney
 Mr. Maas, REHS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2013

Moved by Mrs. Spiech and, seconded by Mr. Wasson and, unanimously agreed by all present to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of February 12, 2013.

APPROVAL OF REPORT OF NO MINUTES FOR MARCH 2013

Moved by Mrs. Spiech and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria and, unanimously agreed by all present to approve the Report of No Minutes for the cancelled meeting of March 12th, 2013.

HEALTH ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2013

Moved by Mrs. Spiech and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria to approve the Health Activities Report for February.

Mrs. Spiech inquired as to the scope of regulations for tanning salons and if these were required to be posted on site. Mr. Maas responded that the regulations were extensive, and clients must sign a waiver indicating knowledge of tanning procedures and risks. Parents may sign for minors aged fourteen to seventeen. Several of the Members acknowledged that legislation may be pending to increase the age restriction, but Mr. Maas has not received official word that this has been accomplished.

Mr. Maas advised that the new owner of Snap Fitness will not be operating a tanning salon as he is neither certified nor licensed. Fab-U-Lus Tanning on Miller Road is the only tanning salon operating in town, and Mr. Maas found them to be Satisfactory on inspection. Mrs. Campbell noted that the State of New Jersey licenses these operations and reimburses the Township for performing the inspections.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Health Activities Report for February was unanimously approved.

HEALTH ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR MARCH 2013

Moved by Mr. Wasson and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria to approve the Health Activities Report for March.

Mrs. Spiech requested an update on a Potentially Dangerous Dog case. Mrs. Musella explained that "Rocky" has not been officially declared; we are working with Carol Tyler of Tyco Animal Control on this situation. Mr. Maas explained that there are specific logistical issues that need to be addressed in this case as the owner and dog reside in a condominium community. As such, the owner is not at liberty to construct enclosures or erect fencing on the property - measures that would be required of a homeowner in similar circumstances. The owner is also adamantly opposed to putting the dog down or relocating him to a jurisdiction outside of New Jersey.

Tyco has been in contact with the owner's attorney and is trying to arrange a joint meeting with him, his client and the Township prosecutor (Dennis Harraka) to come to terms.

Mr. Harris inquired as to the breed of the dog and the nature of the bite incidents that precipitated this action. Mr. Maas could not immediately recall the breed but said there have been three documented cases of this dog biting (or attempting to bite) humans and one case of biting another dog.

Mr. Wasson expressed concern for future potential victims due to the close proximity of neighbors in a condominium community. He asked why the animal was not required to wear a muzzle when outside of his unit. Mr. Maas responded that Tyco will recommend this (and other measures) to the prosecutor.

Mrs. Spiech asked Dr. DeMaria if the dog could be medicated or tranquilized to prevent aggression. Dr. DeMaria responded no; most aggression is fear based and while you can treat underlying anxiety, that treatment is no guarantee the animal won't bite again. Manifest aggression is usually a matter of the owner lacking control of their animal.

Mrs. Spiech then asked about the Avian flu deaths being reported in Asia. Mrs. Musella stated that this is a novel bird flu strain which is currently not transmittable human to human, and public health authorities are monitoring this development carefully.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Health Activities Report for March was unanimously approved.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORTS FOR FEBRUARY and MARCH 2013

Moved by Mr. Wasson and, seconded by Mrs. Spiech to approve the Health Officer's Reports for February and March 2013.

Regarding the February report, Mr. Harris requested additional information on the "Go Red Mommy" Health education program offered by HARP at the Library. Mrs. Musella explained that this program is designed to bring attention to the issue of heart disease in women. It was offered during the Story Time Hour so that the children were otherwise engaged permitting their mothers to attend. Participants numbered twelve to fifteen.

Regarding the March Report, Mr. Harris questioned a discussion Mrs. Musella had with the inspectors regarding fines to be levied upon establishments. It was Mr. Harris' understanding that the Board had approved a fine schedule as part of the new Ordinance. Mrs. Musella explained that for purposes of a court hearing, we had established a range of fines for the prosecutor to consider. For the case in point, Mrs. Musella was recommending a \$150 fine for a first offense by establishments that were operating without a license.

Mr. Harris then requested details on Mrs. Homler's concerns regarding Youth Camps as noted in the March Report. Mrs. Musella

replied that there was a technical question regarding aquatic supervision when the lifeguard on duty is instructing children in the water. The determination was that you must have one lifeguard unengaged and on deck at all times. If a lone lifeguard is giving swimming lessons, it must be one-on-one instruction and everyone else must clear the pool.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Health Officer's Reports for February and March were unanimously approved.

BILLS

Moved by Mr. Wasson and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria and, unanimously agreed by all present to pay the bills for February and March.

REPORT OF LIAISON TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

None.

REPORT OF SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Spiech reported that she had sent flowers to Mr. LaMontagne with the Board's condolences on the loss of his mother and brother. Mr. Harris and the Members thanked her for seeing to this matter.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Mr. Mason reported he is in the process of updating the Pandemic Response Plan Chain of Command with Mrs. Homler and Mrs. Campbell. He hopes to present a finalized version to the Board at our next meeting.

Mr. Mason also wished to report that he had an opportunity to watch the webcast of the 14th Annual Ned E. Baker Lecture on Public Health, the details of which Mrs. Musella had circulated via email earlier last week. The Lecture was televised live from Bowling Green University and many of the points raised meshed with our concerns for updating our objectives, providing leadership in our community and staying motivated.

Mr. Harris did not receive the emailed invitation; Mrs. Musella offered to resend it as the video is probably still available for viewing.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Musella wished to share that Mr. Maas had received a 25-year Service Commendation from the New Jersey Environmental Health Association and was so honored at the Annual Convention. The Members were pleased to offer their congratulations.

OTHER BUSINESS

a) HARP 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Harris noted that the report was fairly self-explanatory and solicited comments from the Members and staff.

Mrs. Spiech noted that as evidenced by the programs they offer, HARP'S educational outreach extends beyond school age children. Referencing the objectives outlined in Mr. Mason's memo, she advocated for more inclusive language as regards our approach to health education.

Mr. Mason qualified that the purpose of his memo was not to limit or define our objectives but to stimulate discussion on our focus and mission.

Mrs. Musella stated that HARP is seeking volunteers to take part in a chronic disease self-management program that was developed by Stanford University. She encouraged the Members to disseminate that information to anyone they believe may be interested.

Mrs. Musella then advised the Board that she has requested periodic reports on HARP'S activities and advance notice of outreach programs and seminars so that we can promote them.

b) REVIEW AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2013

Mrs. Musella gave a brief synopsis on the progress of discussions regarding:

A) HEALTH EDUCATION: topic was addressed in-depth at a meeting with Joanne Wendolowski, Carol Brush and the staff especially with

regard to effective communication, coordination of efforts and outreach to the schools.

B) NURSING PROGRAM: evaluation will be facilitated via contemporaneous reports that have been requested.

C) WORK FORCE EFFICIENCIES: The State's Local Health Evaluation Report (LHER) has been revised and will soon be distributed. After completion by the local jurisdictions, the tabulated results should provide insight into the effectiveness of our operation and shed light on different methodologies employed by other municipalities. We are also committed to researching any new technology that can streamline our processes.

D) EMERGENCY RESPONSE: Mr. Mason is formulating these goals, protocols and updates. Mrs. Musella will review the Public Health Annex of the Emergency Operation Plan for Mahwah.

E) IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY NEEDS: The CHIP (Community Health Improvement Partnership) has completed a Community Needs Assessment and will be sharing the results at their meeting this month. Mrs. Musella suggested we use that survey as a jumping board in choosing which areas of concern we should concentrate on i.e. obesity, smoking, etc. In this way we can be sure the needs we commit our resources to are evidence-based and not just perceived.

Mrs. Spiech questioned what appeared to be a discrepancy in the number of lead cases reported by HARP as compared to the Department's Health Activities Report. Mr. Maas explained that Mrs. Homler must go into the State's Lead Trax program and review all new individual reports in order to find out if any belong to Mahwah. The number in the Health Activities Report indicate total investigations; the number in HARP's report indicate actual cases.

There being no further questions or discussion, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:30pm by Mrs. Spiech, seconded by Mr. Wasson and unanimously agreed to by all present.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2013 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Campbell
Secretary