

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
November 18, 2014**

The re-scheduled 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 7:30 PM by President, Sydney Harris.

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

PRESENT: Mr. Harris
 Mr. LaMontagne
 Mrs. Mertz
 Dr. DeMaria
 Mr. O'Brien

ABSENT: Mrs. DeSilva
 Mr. Wasson

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Mrs. Mertz and, seconded by Mr. LaMontagne and, unanimously agreed by all present to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2014.

OCTOBER HEALTH ACTIVITIES REPORT

Moved by Mr. LaMontagne and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria to approve the Health Activities Report for October 2014.

Mr. Harris expressed satisfaction with the elevated number of food establishment inspections being performed.

Mrs. Campbell stated that electronic reimbursements from Medicare for our 2013 clinics were confirmed after the October packets were printed and mailed. The October Health Activities Report has been adjusted to reflect the total amount received (\$5,002.04).

Mrs. Mertz inquired as to the status of food safety certifications at Mr. Kold Kuts. Mrs. Homler confirmed that the chef had taken the Manager's course, and failed by several points. He will retake the test with a proctor, and in his native language (Spanish), on November 24th.

Mr. Harris requested further details on the Pekin ducks that were removed from Winter's Pond. Mrs. Homler related that Tyco had phoned her while on "goose patrol" at Winter's Park. The ACO (Kim Nangle) witnessed the enclosure and flock and had serious concerns regarding rodent harborage and possible animal cruelty. She entreated Mrs. Homler to aid in the investigation.

Mrs. Homler met with Ms. Nangle at the site and agreed that the situation was unacceptable. Ms. Nangle called the purported owner of the ducks who admitted he had purchased them from Goffle Brook Farm and that one of his employees was feeding and caring for them and the enclosure daily.

The ducks have all been removed. In addition to licensing issues, they cannot fend for themselves and are subject to predation by indigenous wildlife and domestic animals. A Boy Scout had built the duck house enclosure as a Life Project; it will be relocated to Abma's Farm for use at that site.

Mr. LaMontagne asked for an update on Nagoya. Mrs. Homler responded that Mr. Grotheer's reports indicate they are in compliance and doing a much better job following accepted protocols.

Mr. Harris noted that CVS's hearing will take place tonight. Mrs. Homler stated that the violation (a dumpster enclosure issue) was corrected and has remained in compliance since September 9th.

Mr. O'Brien asked for details on the Conditionally Satisfactory rating issued to State Line Diner. Mrs. Homler said that Mr. Grotheer performed this inspection and found many basic violations i.e. dishwasher temperatures insufficient to sanitize, some soups out of safe temperature range, poor cleaning techniques and general maintenance issues. Mrs. Musella noted that Mr. Grotheer reviewed the report with the owner, all issues were addressed and the establishment has since been posted Satisfactory.

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

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER

Moved by Mr. O'Brien and, seconded by Mrs. Mertz to approve the Health Officer's Report for October.

Mrs. Musella related that by mid-month, activities supporting Ebola preparedness kicked into high gear. Many notices, alerts and conference calls were generated by the State Department of Health and protocols are still evolving as situations arise. Mr. Mason inquired as to Mahwah's protocol for ambulance response. Mrs. Musella explained that the Mahwah police dispatcher first screens the call with questions that are read from a scripted index card. It then falls on the dispatcher to warn MEMS responders of a potential for Ebola exposure and/or to contact one of the designated hospitals (Hackensack University Medical Center, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert-Woods Johnson) and request an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)-ready rig to respond.

As an ER nurse, Mr. O'Brien has concerns for volunteers who may be placed under mandatory quarantine after potential or actual exposure. He perceives a lack of support in place for them including no provision for loss of income. Mahwah Emergency Medical Service volunteers have discussed how best to serve the community while still protecting themselves. Mr. O'Brien spoke with Liz Villano (MEMS Chief), and it was noted that Bergen County Parks and Ramapo College are already served by the Valley Hospital ambulance corps under contract and not by Mahwah volunteers. There was a question as to whether Ebola calls could also be contracted out to EVD-ready teams. Mr. O'Brien stated this is a 'gray' area that could be legally troublesome. Delay of care for reasons of safety (i.e. donning proper equipment) is expected; but refusing to respond at all to prevent a potential exposure would be 'picking and choosing'.

Mrs. Musella had not been able to speak with Ms. Villano directly, but expects that short-term, potential Ebola cases would be routed to EVD ready teams until Mahwah volunteers have been properly outfitted and trained. A concerted effort by the entire emergency response network in this regard is well underway.

Mr. Mason assumed that since Hackensack University Medical Center is the closest EVD ready hospital that they would be called on to respond. Mrs. Musella said yes, assuming they were available.

Mrs. Homler asked Mr. O'Brien if Mycom makes the determination of availability. Mr. O'Brien explained that Mycom was the dispatching center for paramedics and for any ambulance corps that chooses to use central dispatching. He explained that Mahwah Police dispatch Mahwah ambulances and reserve the use of Mycom for situations requiring

paramedics or specialized services. So long as the screening is done properly, Mr. O'Brien said very, very few cases are ever handled incorrectly [i.e. dispatching the wrong response unit). However, this issue may become more complicated as other diseases (i.e. flu and malaria) mimic the symptoms of EVD.

Mrs. Musella views our role as active monitors of asymptomatic travelers arriving from the four affected West African countries: Mali, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. These travelers represent a low (but not zero) risk level. They are first screened for illness and exposure by CDC agents at the airport and provided a kit with instructions to self-report their body temperatures to their local health jurisdiction. Mr. Harris asked if we will be notified when one of these individuals is coming to Mahwah. Mrs. Musella said yes, if they are Mahwah residents, but all asymptomatic guests or local residents returning from West Africa are free to travel.

Mr. Mason wished to confirm his understanding of the dispatch protocol and Mr. O'Brien reiterated: The Mahwah Police Department has several dispatchers on staff 24/7, and all 911 calls for Mahwah are routed to them. The dispatcher utilizes a uniform and standardized screening process via an index card system. Index cards are categorized by medical symptom and contain detailed questions which the dispatcher poses to the caller. The answers provided determine which response service is activated.

In an effort to ensure the safety of our volunteers, Mr. Mason proposed that the Board consider making a recommendation to the police that HUMC responders be activated on any case that was potentially ebola related. Mr. O'Brien and Mrs. Musella agreed this would be outside our purview and probably not well received. Mr. Mason clarified that he was not suggesting a dictum but a recommendation to the police for the dispatch function. Mrs. Musella responded that she has been in touch with all of the Police Chiefs to confirm that their staffs are up to speed on the screening protocols and in possession of the updated medical index cards. Mr. O'Brien opined that since the police are usually first on scene, they are at some of the highest risk; the Chiefs will mitigate that risk to every extent possible.

There being no further questions or discussion, the Health Officer's Report for October was unanimously approved.

SITE PLAN REVIEW

Plans for redevelopment of the 58 acre, Mahwah portion (only) of Apple

Ridge Country Club were displayed. All of the existing buildings on the property will be removed and 34 single family homes are slated to be built. The entire subdivision will be serviced by Township water and sewer lines and three septic systems depicted in the drawings will be abandoned in accordance with local and State codes.

BILLS - OCTOBER

Moved by Dr. DeMaria and, seconded by Mrs. Mertz to pay the bills for October. Mr. Harris requested details on a \$1,228.63 purchase from PSS World Medical. Mrs. Campbell responded the largest portion of the bill was for the masks and gloves we are stockpiling for Pandemic Preparedness. The balance was syringes and clinic supplies.

There being no further questions or discussion it was unanimously agreed to pay the Bills for October.

REPORT OF LIAISON TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mr. LaMontagne advised the Members there was no activity to report for October. However, he plans to write a letter of introduction to the new Council when it convenes in January, explaining his role as Liaison to the new Councilmembers and providing our year-end reports to the entire Council.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

No Activity.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Mr. Mason reported he provided our updated Privacy Notice to Mrs. Campbell for dissemination at the flu clinic. He also commented approvingly on an article regarding public outreach that Mr. Harris had provided to the Members. He suggested we may wish to incorporate the use of social media in our own public relations pursuits.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution 2014-11: Retail Food Safety Certification,
Ordinance 14-130 on Final Passage

Motion: Mrs. Mertz
Second: Dr. DeMaria

Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Absent

Motion carries.

Resolution 2014-12: Compensation of the Part-time Health Inspector

Motion: Mr. LaMontagne
Second: Mr. O'Brien

Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Absent

Motion carries.

There being no further questions or discussion, a motion to close the meeting was made at 8:10pm by Mrs. DeSilva, seconded by Mr. LaMontagne and, unanimously agreed to by all present.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2014 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Campbell
Secretary