

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
January 12, 2016**

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 7:50 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
 Dr. DeMaria
 Mr. O'Brien
 Mr. Wasson

ABSENT: Mrs. DeSilva
 Mrs. Mertz

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Dr. DeMaria and, seconded by Mr. LaMontagne to approve the Minutes of December 8, 2015.

Mr. Harris asked Mrs. Musella if the licensing software for the Clerk's office and the one she was proposing for the Department were compatible. He would like to realize the savings if possible and not have the Township purchase two similar programs. Mrs. Musella responded that each program was tailored for the specific needs of the individual department and were therefore, not interchangeable. Mrs. Campbell interjected that the Clerk has decided to remain under contract with the current vendor (Munidex) who assured her they could provide accessibility to both our staff and the Police Department.

Mrs. Musella addressed the cost of the food licensing program we hope to obtain, and said savings realized from the outsourcing of the Child

Health Conference will substantially cover the cost. Currently, our inspectors do not have access to the Excel spreadsheets or Word documents maintained by the administrative staff to catalog and maintain licensee information, inspections performed, food handling certifications received, etc.

Mrs. Campbell also noted the Excel spreadsheets are cumbersome to update and to view on a monitor - or in print. Since all the information for each licensee is entered in columns over one virtual line, it extends over several printed pages. In contrast, the new program is designed to capture all information on a single screen or printed page. This improves usability and accuracy.

Mr. O'Brien opined that having data available on a spreadsheet provides good [historical] information useful for generating reports, but could not provide forecasting or scheduling capabilities that would increase the efficiency of the staff.

Mr. LaMontagne queried if our 2016 Budget Request had been approved; Mrs. Campbell stated the Mayor and Business Administrator had not yet posted their recommendations. Mr. LaMontagne asked to be kept apprised of the status. If not approved, he offered to approach the Mayor to make our case.

There being no further questions or discussions, the Minutes for the Regular Meeting were approved.

APPROVAL OF HEALTH ACTIVITIES REPORT

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

Mr. Mason wished to discuss the status of the summonses issued to Mrs. Weidner and the scheduled trial. Mr. Maas noted these were Mrs. Homler's summonses, but he will attend the trial with her. Mr. Harris asked if there was a specific reason Mrs. Weidner had not licensed her goats or donkeys. Mr. Maas did not know that answer, however he did know that she has licensed them in the past, and in November the animals were on property.

On November 19, 2015, the Weidners' attorney rejected a plea deal wherein the defendant would plead guilty and pay a reduced fine. Mr. Harris confirmed the licensing fees with the staff (ranging from \$90 to \$250 per "herd") and marveled that the Weidners would choose to pay attorney fees instead. Mr. Mason had some recollection of a

familial or business relationship between the Weidners and their attorney. This could make litigation a viable option for them.

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

APPROVAL OF HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Moved by Mr. Wasson and, seconded by Mr. O'Brien to accept the Health Officer's Report for November.

Mr. Harris commended Mrs. Musella for providing concise and clear information in her report.

Mr. Wasson asked if there had been resolution to a rock salt complaint levied by a resident. Mr. Maas explained that the complaint had come in via "Public Stuff", a mobile application purchased by the Township that residents may use to lodge complaints with a smart phone. Unfortunately, these complaints are anonymous and unless specifically provided by the complainant, we do not receive an email address or phone number by which to contact them. Further, the inspectors do not have smart phones, so these complaints are forwarded to Mrs. Musella's [NWBRC-issued] smart phone, and she relays them to the inspectors via email.

The complaint alleged that rain water was saturating a pile of rock salt being stored at a condominium, and the run-off was contaminating a nearby water body. Mr. Grotheer performed an inspection and contacted the New Jersey DEP in an effort to assist the Condominium Association in containing the pile and preventing undue run-off.

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

BILLS

None to present.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

No activity.

REPORT OF LIAISON TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

No activity. Mr. Harris thanked Mr. LaMontagne for his commitment to achieving our animal licensing information objective.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY

Mr. Mason reported that he had reached out again to Kari Priveet, Director of Operations for Memory Care Living. Ms. Priveet reported that the facility manager for the Mahwah site had retaken the Food Managers test on January 5, 2015. The test results will not be available until January 18th. Ms. Priveet expressed her concern that perhaps this course and this test were beyond the employee's capabilities. Mr. Mason explained to her that compliance was not an option; the Board has a mandate to uphold the law. Ms. Priveet has asked the testing company to expedite the results if at all possible.

Mr. Maas noted that while it is permissible to retest without also retaking the course, Potomac Homes directed the facility manager to do both to ensure a passing grade. Mrs. DeSilva queried if the test score had risen between the first and second failures; Mr. Maas did not have that information.

CORRESPONDENCE

Date: 1/04/2016 To: Mayor Laforet From: Mr. Harris
Recommending the re-appointments of Donald Wasson and Edie DeMaria

Date: 1/06/2016 To: Mrs. Musella From: Mayor Laforet
Confirming Mayoral re-appointments of Donald Wasson and Edie DeMaria

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Musella wished to announce that a program on domestic violence and healthy relationships was being offered by the Midland Park Board of Health on January 27th at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend at the Ambulance Building on Godwin Avenue.

Mr. Harris noted that CERT periodically distributes a bulletin listing workshops and programs available to their membership. One of the current offerings concerns encounters with mentally unstable victims. He invited any Member to contact him for more information.

Mrs. Musella also announced a 'Save The Date" for March 3, 2016 issued by Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission. The Commission is inviting all contracting Boards to attend a program that will assist them in becoming designated as a "Healthy Community". This title is bestowed by the League of Municipalities under the "Mayor's Wellness Campaign" initiative. There is an application process involved and NWBRHC's Health Educator will assist interested Boards in that regard. Formal announcements are forthcoming.

Mr. O'Brien asked if the Bill raising the tobacco age of sale threshold to 21 year of age had passed the Assembly. Mrs. Musella had not received word, but noted that even if passed, the bill was still subject to a veto by the Governor.

Mrs. Campbell reminded the Members that our annual Rabies Clinic would be held at the Municipal Building on January 30th from 10:00 am until 1:00pm. Since the vaccine is provided by the State, any New Jersey resident was entitled to attend. Print flyers will be posted about town, and press releases will also be submitted to the Suburban News, the Township website and the Mahwah Community News cable channel.

There being no further questions or discussion, a motion to close the meeting was made at 8:25pm by Mr. LaMontagne and, seconded by Dr. DeMaria and, unanimously agreed to by all present.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for **February 9, 2016,** at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Campbell
Secretary