

TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2012

The regularly 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 7:45 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
 Mr. LaMontagne
 Dr. DeMaria
 Mrs. DeSilva
 Mrs. Mertz
 Mr. Wasson

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Wasson and, seconded by Mrs. DeSilva to approve the Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of December 13, 2011.

Mr. Harris requested an update on the situation at Cobblestone Farm. Mr. Maas noted that Mrs. Homler had returned to the property and believed that the manure issue was under control. Mrs. Musella said that Carol Tyler from Tyco Animal Control had spoken to Ms. Sciro, and indicated that she is willing to cooperate. [Tyco will be the Township's Animal Control agency in 2012 and will be responsible for dealing with this issue going forward.]

There being no further questions or discussion, the Minutes for December 2011 were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF HEALTH ACTIVITIES REPORT

Moved by Mrs. Spiech and, seconded by Mr. LaMontagne to approve the Health Activities Report for December 2011.

Mr. Wasson requested additional information on a violation at Mason Jar Restaurant. Mr. Maas explained that the spray pump being used in the smoker to apply marinade is not approved for food service use. Phthalates and other substances can leach from non-food grade plastics. Mrs. Homler is in discussion with Mason Jar and the manufacturer of the pump being used.

Mrs. Spiech asked if the bed bug situation at Lindvale Gardens was under control. Mr. Maas responded not as yet. Several units at the property have confirmed bed bug infestations. The property manager had hired a professional exterminator (Viking Pest Control), but they were not able to eradicate the infestation.

Mr. Maas and Mrs. Homler met with the owners of Lindvale Gardens on November 22nd and learned that they had hired a new pest control company. Mr. Maas stated that while it is the landlord's responsibility to provide a pest free environment, they must rely on the cooperation of their tenants for access, preparation, signing waivers and in some cases, vacating the unit for several hours.

He continued that Mrs. Homler had sent letters directly to the tenants involved eliciting their cooperation. One of the more vocal complainants seems now also to be one of the least cooperative. Because she is withholding rent pending a resolution, legal issues are further complicating the situation and delaying action.

Mr. Wasson voiced concern that given the expense and problems involved in remediation, landlords would pass these obligations onto their tenants as a condition of their lease.

Mrs. Spiech asked if any other [multiple dwelling] units in Mahwah had bed bug infestations. Mr. Maas stated he is working on a case at Rolling Gardens involving 4 units. Management there is cooperating, and two of the four units have been certified 'clean'.

Mrs. Spiech then asked if the total number of animal bite investigations for 2011 was consistent with prior years. Mrs. Campbell did not recall prior year figures but noted any increase might also be due to better reporting. She relayed that some years back, Mrs. Homler had spent considerable effort bringing our local physicians up to Code regarding mandated bite protocols.

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

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORTS FOR DECEMBER

Moved by Mrs. DeSilva and, seconded by Mr. Wasson and, unanimously agreed by all present to approve the Health Officer's Report for December 2011.

BILLS

Moved by Mrs. Spiech and, seconded by Mr. LaMontagne and, unanimously agreed by all present to pay the bills for December.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Spiech reported that she had received a note of thanks from Mrs. Homler and family in appreciation for the Board's kindnesses (card and Mass) during the recent loss of her mother.

REPORT OF ATTORNEY

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Wasson and Dr. DeMaria abstain from voting on the following Non-Fair and Open Contract resolutions pending administration of their Oaths of Office.

Resolution 2012-05: 2012 Health Officer Contract with NWBRHC

Motion: Mrs. DeSilva
Second: Mrs. Spiech

Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Abstentions
Motion carries.

Resolution 2012-06: 2012 Public Health Nursing Contract with HARP

Motion: Mrs. Mertz
Second: Mr. LaMontagne

Roll Call: 5 Ayes, 2 Abstentions
Motion carries.

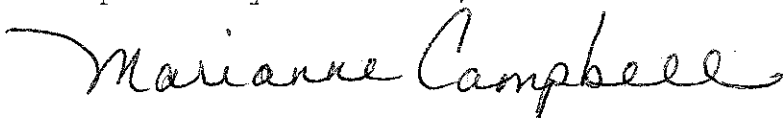
Former Board of Health Member Mr. Ackerman was in attendance as 'public'. Mr. Harris was pleased to present him a commemorative gift on behalf of the residents of Mahwah. He thanked Mr. Ackerman for the many valuable contributions he made during his 8 ½ year tenure as a volunteer on this Board.

For his part, Mr. Ackerman thanked the Members and professional staff for a rewarding experience, exhorting them to maintain the high standard of service they provide to the residents of Mahwah.

There being no further business or discussion, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:20 pm by Mrs. Spiech, seconded by Mrs. LaMontagne and, unanimously agreed to by all present.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2012 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Marianne Campbell
Secretary