

Board of Health Minutes

March 18, 2020

Regular Meeting:

Upon roll call: Mr. Bob Dorsi, Mr. Ed Sorge, Mrs. Carol Boyer, Dr. Komal Naik, Dr. Gary Pien, Mrs. Gerri Moran, Mrs. Ellen Guritzky, Mr. Alvaro Mederios, Mrs. Annie McNair

A motion was made by Mr. Ed Sorge to approve the minutes of January 9, 2020 Board of Health meeting and seconded by Mrs. Gerri Moran. By unanimous vote all members were in favor.

President's Report: no report

Health Officer's Report: The first positive case in Union County was in Berkeley Heights. An epidemiological investigation of the case was completed which consisted of isolating the patient, quarantined the family, and conducted contact tracing of close contact individuals.

Annie McNair, Health Officer, attended and presented at a March 5th meeting along with the Mayor, Township Administrator, Superintendent of BH & Mountainside, BOE President, OEM, PD & FD Chiefs, DPW. Etc. to discuss prevention and planning of Coronavirus. Annie also presented at a March 10th Township Council meeting and at a March 12th BH Board of Education meeting. Union County is receiving approximately 50 calls per day due to virus.

Registered Environmental Health Specialist's Report: A few inspections were recently completed such as pre-operation for Zen Dim Sum on February 6th, reinspected and approved to open on February 10th. Devour Creative Catering was inspected on February 6th but moved to Bedminster as of March 1st and the Pastrami House was satisfactory on March 13th.

BOH received a temporary food license application for Zerbini Family Circus on May 29 & 30.

Construction plans were also reviewed for Zim Dim Sum & Little Flower Church.

BOH received a complaint on February 12 regarding mattresses and junk in a backyard. The Health Inspectors went to the site two times but no one was on site. BOH is working with the Zoning Officer on this complaint. Another complaint was received on February 13 from a BH resident due to a rodent in her backyard which was due to the utility company leaving garbage when they were working behind her backyard. BOH informed the utility company and they cleaned up the garbage.

Home for Good Dogs court date was rescheduled for April 9th. Sam I Am Bagels and Stop & Shop court dates due to grease trap inspections were moved to April 15th.

General Communications: Mr. Bob Dorsi introduced Ellen Guritzky, new BOH member. Ellen has been living in BH for 6 years, is a Registered Dental Hygienist, holds Marketing & Science degrees along with law, works for Glaxo Smith Klein in the compliance area and is in the process of adopting a son.

BOH Shared Services Agreement with Union County was signed and approved. Linda will email a copy to BOH members

Berkeley Heights is paying for the Tuberculosis agreement via quarterly payments.

Annie McNair will contact Dr. Nazir to inquire about lead poisoning grant.

BOH is in the process of joining the NJ Local Boards of Health Association for 2020 with a full board regular membership.

Coronavirus testing: If you have mild symptoms for 2 to 3 days and take over the counter meds but on day 3 still feeling sick, please contact your doctor to get a script. Union County is setting up drive thru testing at Kean University. Health care professionals from Overlook, RWJ & Trinitas Hospitals will assist the County. The goal is to screen approximately 200 patients per day. Your name needs to be on the list with your appointment time since there will screeners and security present. Lab turnaround time should be 24-48 hours since they will use NJ Labs. They are also establishing a hotline. The State has a scheduling software & is currently testing it. Approximate start date is next Tuesday, March 24th.

FEMA is setting up Coronavirus testing in Bergen & Monmouth counties.

Atlantic Health System and MedExpress set up at total of 3 drive thru locations in East Brunswick, Rockaway & Totowa.

The Command Center in Hackensack is having challenges with supplies.

BOH members are not considered first responders. BOH members would receive the vaccine/meds first if there's a threat since BOH members are considered emergency medical responders.

New Business: no report

Old Business: no report

Citizens Hearing: no report

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Bob Dorsi asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:41pm. A motion was made by Mr. Ed Sorge and seconded by Dr. Komal Naik to adjourn to May 20, 2020 in the Public Meeting Conference Room at 7:30pm.

Submitted by Linda Palumbo