

CHATHAM BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH
ReOrganization and Regular Meeting
January 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Lisa DeRosa called this Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 212, middle level, Chatham Borough Hall. Chrmn. DeRosa read aloud the following statement:

Pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq. adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by including same in the Annual Notice, copies of which were posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board, on the main floor of the Borough Hall, emailed to the Chatham Courier, the Daily Record, and the Alternative Press on January 3, 2019 and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

Names	Present	Absent
Lisa DeRosa, Chrmn.	X	
Rita Marts, R.N.		X
Mary Ann McCabe, R.N.	X	
Kay Kaiser, R.N.		X
Micki Chaput, R.N.		X
Lisabeth Bringgaard, R.N.		X
Shelliam Lee		X
Council Member Robert Weber, Sr.	X	
Bridget Colendenski, R.N., Public Health Nurse	X	
Andrew Zoltan – 1 st Alternate		X
Megan Avallone, Health Officer	X	
Beau Preston, R.E.H.S.	X	
Liz Holler, Minutes Secretary	X	

A legal quorum of Board members was not reached.

Administration of Oaths of Office

The four Board members to be sworn in were not present at this time.

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the November 8, 2018 Board of Health meeting could not be approved because a legal quorum was not present.

Reorganization Resolutions for 2019

None of the resolutions could be voted on this night because a quorum was not present.

Reports

Nursing Report

Ms. Colendenski summarized her report for December 2018. Vitamin packets are still being distributed at the child health clinics. Also, “Grow & Gain” kits were distributed to six Chatham Borough residents. No adult residents from Chatham Borough participated in the Vaccines for Adults (VFA) Program.

Ms. Colendenski reported that the Municipal Alliance Committee of the Chathams met on November 19th. “Challenge Day” was discussed at this meeting, which was held at the Chatham Middle School. Also, the Chatham-Madison Coalition held a meeting on November 13th. The Coalition received a community grant from Overlook Hospital for \$1,250 to fund a new, innovated program. This grant money was used for funding drug de-activation packets that will be distributed by area funeral homes. Ms. Colendenski explained that these quart-size packages have a solution that de-activates medicines that no longer need to be used.

Ms. Colendenski reported that there was one Hepatitis B case reported for Chatham Borough. One Lyme disease case was reported for Chatham Borough. Ms. Colendenski distributed and discussed a brochure about COYL – “Conversation Of Your Life” a Mayor’s Wellness Campaign Program regarding individuals’ wishes concerning end of life matters. The COYL task force, through programs for the public, would help individuals convey these end of life wishes to their loved ones.

Ms. Colendenski reported the Communicable Disease Winter Forum was held on December 7th. The training included the protocol that should be followed if an outbreak occurs in a long-term health care facility and other institutional settings.

Ms. Colendenski reviewed what health screenings and classes will be offered to the public by Overlook Hospital during January and February 2019. Chrmn. DeRosa will talk to Robin Kline about listing these events on the Borough website.

R.E.H.S. Report

Mr. Preston reported that he had completed an initial inspection for the kitchen belonging to the new restaurant Soriso's. He also did a pre-operational inspection of the new Chatham Bagel store. There had been a rat-sighting on Somerset Road. Mr. Preston visited the area in question. One of the residents had a pest control company already on site.

Financial Report

Mrs. DeRosa noted that legal fees have now been listed on this report; however, only for August. Everything else looked fine to Mrs. DeRosa.

Vital Statistics Report

The report was accepted.

Pest Control Report

The report was accepted.

Animal Control Report

Board member briefly discussed a missing dog from Ellers Drive which had been found on Weston Avenue. Fortunately, the dog had been micro-chipped. Mrs. DeRosa will follow up on this dog's licensing situation with Cheri Morris at Borough Hall.

Health Officer Monthly Update

Ms. Avallone reported that Chatham Borough's Low Cost Rabies & Pet Wellness Clinic was held on Saturday, January 5th. Over 200 pet owners visited the Wellness van which was parked in the Chatham train station parking lot, eastbound side. The Wellness van is willing to return to Chatham next year.

Ms. Avallone reported that Helen Menendez has been promoted to Assistant Health Officer. She couldn't attend tonight's meeting because of illness. Ms.

Menendez had filled in for Ms. Avallone when she was on maternity leave. Ms. Menendez will attend next month's meeting.

Discussion Items

Draft Ordinance Review Update

Ms. Avallone distributed hand-outs to help with this review. She referred Board members to the ordinance enacting standards for the handling of garbage and refuse. Ms. Avallone pointed out that currently garbage regulations are situated all over the Borough Code. She suggested all the garbage regulations be contained in one chapter for Health.

Council Member Weber asked Ms. Avallone which entity enforces the garbage regulations – the Health Department or the Zoning Officer who is in charge of property maintenance.

Ms. Avallone answered that if the Health Department received a garbage complaint, they will investigate it. At times the Borough Zoning Officer will work with the Board of Health over a property maintenance situation.

Board members discussed whether the green garbage bags, being put on the curb, should be required to be put in garbage cans.

Council Member Weber suggested a time span be in place of how long garbage bags can be set on the curb. If the resident has the garbage bags out longer than the set time span, the bags must be placed in receptacles.

Ms. Avallone recommended that the receptacle section be kept in this ordinance. This particular section will only be enforced only if complaints are made. If someone does make a complaint, Ms. Avallone would want the refuse receptacle section to remain as is in the ordinance.

Ms. Avallone brought up the Board of Health ordinance regulating the control of animals and rabies. She noted that the Board had wanted to omit the regulation limiting the number of dogs and cats that a resident could have. Mrs. Avallone will then remove that particular regulation. She will also remove the definitions regarding a multi-unit residence and a single unit residence. Ms. Avallone will include a regulation stating that the dog or cat must have its license displayed. With the Board's consent, Ms. Avallone, in the fee section, omitted the requirement that an animal be spayed or neutered in the first year of his life.

The Board and Ms. Avallone made an amendment to the section on the quarantining of animals who have bitten someone.

Council Member Weber asked if the fees stated in Section G were still acceptable. Ms. Avallone suggested some revised language for that section.

2019 Board of Health Budget

Ms. Avallone brought up that Chatham Borough has entered into a contract with the Town of Westfield for Public Health Services. The contract states that the annual increase shall be 2% or the cost of the CWA (Westfield's bargaining unit) increase, whichever is less. This increase brings the 2019 contract to \$1,707.

On other matters, Ms. Avallone distributed copies of a letter she had recently sent to all the major newspapers. She noted that the legalization of recreational marijuana is becoming more imminent. In her letter, Ms. Avallone questioned why New Jersey's public health leaders were not included at the table to give essential input to statewide discussions regarding the legalization of recreational marijuana.

Ms. Avallone pointed out that the bill for the legalization of recreational marijuana has no language outlawing edible cannabis product like gummy bears and pop-tarts containing marijuana. These items are dangerous for unsuspecting children. Ms. Avallone brought up that such items could have child-proof double packaging. If this legalization of marijuana bill is approved, there is no mention of expanded mental health and drug treatment services for communities. Also, funding for health education pertaining to marijuana and substance abuse is not guaranteed.

Ms. Avallone reviewed the entities which are backing her letter. They are the presidents of the following organizations: NJ Society for Public Health Education, NJ Environmental Health Association, and NJ Public Health Association.

Chrmn. DeRosa felt that the public would be shocked to find out that state legislators have not solicited the expertise and opinion of public health leaders on this legalization of marijuana. Council Member Weber felt that the state legislators just want to get this legalization approved as quickly as possible.

Chrmn. DeRosa asked if the Chatham Superintendent of Schools should be given a copy of Ms. Avallone's letter. Council Member Weber suggested Chrmn. DeRosa forward the letter on to the Superintendent of Chatham schools with a note explaining that this letter had been written by the Borough's Health Officer, and she is asking if it could be distributed to the parents.

On other matters, Council Member Weber asked if there is any Board of Health training courses available. Chrmn. DeRosa recalled that most Board members have taken online courses. Ms. Avallone noted that in March an updated local Board of Health manual will be available. This manual will probably be online as well.

Before adjourning, Chrmn. DeRosa pointed out that the Board of Health needs an official Board secretary.

Council Member Weber noted that in mid-December Chatham Borough had sent out their annual license renewal applications to local food establishments. What has been the response? Chrmn. DeRosa said so far the response has been 50% according to Robin Kline, the Borough Clerk.

At 8:25 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Chatham Board of Health meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, 7:00 p.m., Room 212, middle level, Chatham Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary