

THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE EMERSON BOARD OF HEALTH WAS HELD ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2020 8:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BOROUGH HALL.

Roll Call: Cindy Bischoff, Sue Gibbons, Linda Lahey and Cory Melillo

Also present were Councilwoman Nicole Argenzia, NWBC Health Officer Angela Musella, and Liz Morris, Board of Health Secretary.

Apologies: Elaine Palombit

Roll Call: CB=yes SG=yes LL- yes CM=yes

The Board of Health Reorganization meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by acting Board of Health President Cindy Bischoff.

Open for Nominations for the election of the Board of Health President

Motion was made by Cory Melillo, seconded by Sue Gibbons to nominate Cindy Bischoff as the President of the Board of Health.

Roll Call: CB=yes SG=yes LL- yes CM=yes

Open for Nominations for the election of the Board of Health Vice President

Motion was made by Cindy Bischoff, seconded by Linda Lahey to nominate Sue Gibbons as the Vice-President of the Board of Health.

Roll Call: CB=yes SG=yes LL- yes CM=yes

Cindy and Sue were congratulated by the meeting.

Resolution No. 1-20, re: Duties and Responsibilities of Secretaries to Board Committees and Commissions

A motion to approve Resolution No. 1-20 was made by Cory Melillo and seconded by Linda Lahey

Roll Call: CB=yes SG=yes LL- yes CM=yes

Resolution No. 2-20, re: Board of Health to Authorize Board of Health Secretary to sign Vouchers and Purchase Orders.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 2-20 was made by Cory Melillo and seconded by Sue Gibbons

Roll Call: CB=yes SG=yes LL- yes CM=yes

The Animal and Financial Reports for January were accepted as submitted.

291 dog and 30 cat licenses were issued in January. This is about the same number of dog licenses as 2019. Cat licenses were less than the previous year. Reminders were posted on the electronic sign and sent out through the Reverse911 system by text, email and phone. As of February 13th the Borough had licensed 340 dogs. In 2018 only 320 had been licensed by the end of February.

The secretary received an enquiry about licensing a pet pig. There is no ordinance for licensing pigs so Angela provided information and a form from Washington Township who had licensed pigs. They require the animal to be vaccinated against rabies but do not have a license fee. The meeting agreed that this would be the best protocol for Emerson to follow. The secretary will check that this is acceptable to the Borough Administrator.

In addition to the revenue from dog and cat licenses, NWBRHC registrar payment and one temporary food license payment were received.

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Activity Report for January was circulated to the meeting

All food establishments were mailed with a schedule for the winter Food Managers and Food Handlers classes.

Inspections

Five inspections were conducted and all were satisfactory.

Temporary Food Licenses

None issued.

Plan Reviews & Consultations

None

Complaints

None

Inquiries

Armenian Nursing Home- exterminator inquired as to what the guidelines were for how many bait boxes should be laid to avoid an eruption of rats. The recommendation was as many as necessary and adequate checking.

Emerson Health Department

A business that wants to pasteurize and store breast milk had submitted an application to the Land Use Board who contacted the Board of Health to see if their involvement was needed. After conferring with the NJDOH Retail Food Division NWBRHC found that retail sale of breast milk is not permitted and therefore not regulated by the local health department. The applicant to the Land Use Board called themselves Eushavid gift shop but the application did not state that they were going to sell breast milk.

Board of Health members have researched this further and found that before any organization opens a breast milk storage facility they have to prove that they are following State law and HBMANA guidelines. State law mandates that the facility would have to be inspected to ensure that it was following the law. The assumption is that NJBOH Inspectors would do this. Sue has looked into Eushavid Gift Shop and found that they have a website called unconditionalmom.com which received a trademark in January. Milk is sold from that website and e-Bay and shipped from Mahwah. Based on this information NWBRHC will research this further. The application to the Land Use Board is to rezone the lot. They may or may not deny it. There is a concern that the facility will not be inspected by NJDOH frequently enough. They only have to inspect once every 5 years.

Animal Bites

None

Summonses/Abatements/Violation

None Issued

Court Appearances

None

OPRA Request

None

Servsafe Food Handlers Classes

Classes were held but there were no participants from Emerson.

Septic system abandonment approved for 102 Dyer Ave.

Vital Statistics

There were 9 deaths reported and no marriage licenses issued in January.

Health Education

Chantal attended a vaping presentation at BCDOH, and she and Angela participated in a Hepatitis A webinar,

The Certified Board of Health Training is now working at njlbha.org. On the home page of the website there is a tab for Education and then a tab Online Training. Successful completion of that training gives a certification as a certified Board of Health member.

Chantal also gave a presentation to the Emerson Seniors on diabetes

Communicable Disease Investigations

None reported

Blood Pressure Program

Two residents attended the December 12th clinic. All vital signs were within normal limits and no distress was noted.

School Immunization Audits

All Emerson Schools reported 100% immunization.

Correspondence-Received

NJDEP First Environment: Plaza Auto Remedial Action Certification Form

Correspondence-Sent

Confirmation of successful abandonment of the septic disposal system located at 102 Dyer Avenue.

Council Liaison Report

Councilwoman Argenzia reported that Councilwoman Dinallo and several new members of Borough Boards and Commissions (Recreation, Library, Historic Preservation) were sworn in at the January meeting.

School Resource officer contract is being completed and once approved the contract will run for three years.

The Emerson Redevelopment was discussed at the February Mayor and Council meeting. Discussions with the remaining tenants about leases are ongoing. The redevelopers are working with Cork and Keg to find new premises. They are in litigation with Laurel Chinese and this is expected to take 18-24 months. The town has received a letter asking the Mayor and Council to condemn the lease on this property. At this point, the redeveloper is in a position to build the parking lot but until Laurel Chinese have vacated their premises the remaining buildings could not be built.

There is an agreement between the Borough and the redevelopers that the redevelopers will provide funds of \$500,000 towards the refurbishment of Borough Hall and a new ambulance building. This was based on a condition that plans would be ready by December 31, 2019. The plans were not available at this date. At the last Mayor and Council meeting the Borough Attorney said the Borough could start litigation to obtain the \$500,000. Discussions are ongoing.

Building of the parking lot cannot start as the Borough has not issued all the required permits because the redeveloper has not yet supplied full plans.

A safety study on the stop signs on Palisades has been done. The State Investigator has been contacted.

The temporary ambulance building to house the ambulances is being built in the DPW yard. The Recreation Center will be used for all other Ambulance Corps related activities.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emerson High School Health Fair has been held. It was well put together but attendance was a little low.

The possibility of holding health related events sponsored by the Board of Health two to three times a year at the Senior Center was discussed. Ken Roman, president of the Seniors is the best person to contact for the venue. The Library is a possible alternative. Topics like Living Wills, Bullying, the opioid crisis (e.g. Hidden in Plain Sight), Organ Donation and Sleep were suggested. This wouldn't include topics which the schools had presented. Sue will reach out to Chantal at NWBRHC to discuss what plans they have.

Motion by Cory Melillo, seconded by Linda Lahey, that the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Roll Call: CB-yes SG-yes LL- yes CM-yes

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Morris,
Board of Health Secretary