

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EMERSON BOARD OF HEALTH WAS HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, 2019 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

Roll Call: Nicole Argenzia, Cindy Bischoff, and Linda Lahey.

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

Apologies: Sue Gibbons

Health Assistant notified the Board of Health members that in case of a fire follow the Fire Exit sign above the door and exit calmly.

Roll Call: NA=yes CB=yes LL- yes

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board of Health President Nicole Argenzia.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the meeting go into closed session.

Roll Call: NA=yes CB=yes LL- yes

The February 19 meeting of the Board of Health reconvened

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Linda Lahey, to vote on the open seat on the Board of Health.

NA-Cory Melilla, CB-Cory Melilla, LL- Cory Melilla

That is a unanimous vote for Cory Melillo as the fifth member of the Board of Health.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting be approved as written.

Roll Call: NA=yes CB=yes LL- yes

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

The Board of Health secretary reported that 280 dog and 40 cat licenses had been issued in January. This is down on 2018 by 50 licenses despite reminders being posted on the electronic sign posts. It was suggested a list of owners who licensed their pets in 2018 but not in 2019 should be generated through the MACS database and a letter written reminding them that payment is due. Board of Health Secretary will look into this.

Whilst reviewing the payment of vouchers, a question came up about why the annual meetings had to be noticed in the Ridgewood News and The Record. The answer is that it is a legal requirement to notice meetings in paid papers and these two newspapers are the ones approved for use by the Borough. The meeting agreed that it was helpful to have a full list of expenses (vouchers paid) for each month.

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

January was a very busy month as the NWBRHC was audited by the NJ Department of Health. The preparation for an audit is very labor intensive but the work paid off as the NWBRHC was complemented by the evaluator for their standards. In February the statistical report will be completed.

Inspections

Boston Market was inspected and had to be re-inspected because there was a problem. At the February 14th inspection it was found that the water booster on the dishwasher had broken and the technician installed a chemical sanitizer as a temporary measure. This did not seem to work as there was no reading on the test strips used when the dishes came out of the dishwasher. Boston Market was told to contact NWBRHC when that had been corrected. In the meantime they used the three compartment sink instead of the dishwasher. There were fruit flies around this sink and there was a leak under the sanitizer part of the three compartment sink. On re-inspection the fruit flies were still present and there was a leaky drainpipe attached to the grease trap to the basement. The pump which needs to be installed to repair the dishwasher is still on order. The fruit flies are being combatted by vacuuming three times daily and the situation seems to be under control.

W&B were inspected and given a satisfactory rating. W&B are a sushi franchise, previously called Wok n Shop operating in ShopRite. They recently sold the franchise to Sushi House so they will be re-inspected in February before a food license is issued to the new company. Wok and Shop had not had a license since June 2018. This became apparent when they came to the Board of Health office in December requesting that the food license be issued in their new name W&B Foods. That triggered the inspection which took place just before they sold.

One temporary food license was approved.

Animal Bites

Three animal bites reported, two dogs to persons and one dog to dog. The dog to person bites were Emerson dogs. In the dog to dog incident the biting dog was an Emerson dog. The owner of the bitten dog was living temporarily in the area.

One of the dog to person bites was very severe and the dog was put down. The dog, a basenji, belonged to an Emerson resident and bit a family member. The head was sent for rabies testing and the result was negative.

Health Education

Dana attended the CHIPS Nutrition and Physical Activity task force meeting to review requirements and resources needed to meet the Wellness Challenge for Bergen Counties Towns and Cities and evaluate whether NWBHC wanted to participate. There was not enough time to get the initiative started so they decided against it.

Chantal scheduled a program, 'Keeping Your Minds Sharp' for Emerson Senior Club on February 14. She also ran a program on e-cigarettes for the school officials and nurse at the Emerson Junior High School.

Vital Statistics

There were 10 deaths reported and 1 marriage license issued in December.

Communicable Disease Investigations

One Hepatitis B and one Lyme investigated

NWBRHC received a resolution 'Opposing the construction of the gas powered North Bergen Liberty generating station'.

PS&S noticed a short term water use permit by rule for General Construction.

Public Health Nurse Report

Public Health nurse was unable to attend

Council Liaison Report

Councilman Knoller Council liaison for the Board of Health was unable to attend because of a conflict with the Mayor and Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion, re: Hookah Lounge

This was tabled to the next meeting as Councilman Knoller was not at the meeting to give an update on his report to the January 15th Mayor and Council meeting and any subsequent actions.

NEW BUSINESS:

No new business.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Linda, that the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Roll Call: NA=yes CB=yes LL- yes

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Morris, Board of Health Secretary