

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EMERSON BOARD OF HEALTH WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

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

Also present were Rebecca Pigoncelli, REHS NWBRHC, and Liz Morris, Board of Health Secretary.

Apologies: Nicole Argenzia, Councilman Knoller

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

Roll Call: CB=yes LL=yes SB=yes CM=yes

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board of Health Vice President Cindy Bischoff.

Motion by Linda Lahey, seconded by Corey Melillo, that the minutes of the June 13, 2019 meeting be approved.

Roll Call: CB=yes LL=yes SB=yes CM=yes

The Animal and Financial Reports for June, July and August were reviewed.

June

The Board of Health Secretary highlighted the fact that June had a lot of entries because Food Licenses have to be renewed by June 30th each year. Sonic Suds still have not paid for the food license that they are required to hold for their vending machine. This is being followed up.

There has been one further establishment added to the list which will show in the September report. Soldier Hill Golf course have appointed a food service provider which has started serving food in a bar area. They have been issued a Food License for that facility. They will also open an upstairs restaurant for functions and when this renovation has been inspected and approved a second license will be issued. This is a county facility and so was inspected by the county health department and not NWBRHC.

The chamber of commerce paid for three paid for 3 temporary licenses for their car show. There was some discussion at the June meeting as to whether or not all the food trucks at the car show had paid for a license, specifically, NoCo as they did not appear to have a food license. One of the three temporary licenses was for NoCo and they were inspected at the event.

Seven dog licenses and no cat licenses were issued and registrar fees were received.

July

Two dog licenses and no cat licenses were issued. Registrar fees were received and three further food licenses were issued.

August

No dog, cat or food licenses were issued. Registrar fees were received.

There was a question as to why Marshall's are required to have a license. The response was that they have vending machines and sell prepackaged candy, ice cream etc.

A Board member asked why a food license was not issued to the concession stand when it is used for recreation sports games. The concession stand is inspected for big events like the Summer Kick Off town picnic and Stephanie Morgan Memorial Softball tournament but it is not inspected on an ongoing basis. This will be researched

There was also a discussion about inspecting the school facilities. There have been reports on social media of issues with food at the elementary schools; non-food items in food and food left out without being chilled. The elementary schools are catered by the high schools, they purchase their own milk and are responsible for maintaining sanitary conditions where the food is being served. The elementary schools do not have large kitchens or refrigeration units. As of yet, there have been no complaints about the high school cafeteria or catering facilities.

None of this has been reported officially to the Board of Health or NWBRHC even though NWBRHC do the inspections.

The communication of these concerns to the Board of Ed or Board of health rather than through social media has already been done on social media. It will also be brought up at the next PTA meeting and the Board of Education contacted.

This will be put on the agenda for review at the October 10 Board of Health meeting.

Payment of vouchers

There was a line item on the June vouchers section for food license forms. This was commented on as Board of Health members did not recall seeing this in the past. The reason is that the forms are sold in packets of 500 and around 50 licenses are issued per year. It would have been several years since this was reported as a line item.

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Activity Reports for June, July and August were circulated to the meeting and Rebecca reviewed them.

June

Inspections

Hackensack golf club pool inspected.

There were 10 retail food inspections in June. Two of these were conditional; J's Bagels and Café and Shortrounds. The issue at J's Bagels and Café was the walk in refrigeration unit which was 50° and the unit was not set to defrost so some items had to be discarded. The hand sink that was installed at the start of the year was cluttered. On re-inspection they were satisfactory. Shortrounds had a refrigeration issue with one of the counter refrigerators as high as 60°. Items were moved to the reach in refrigerator. Also the dumpster was not properly closed, there was garbage on the ground around it and flies swarming. There was a large tub of grease uncovered near the dumpster. These were rectified and they were reinstated in July. The two rechecks for Dunkin Donuts were from May.

Temporary Licenses

Discussed earlier.

Plan reviews & consultations

No plan reviews & consultations as there are no new businesses.

Complaints

Laurel Chinese Restaurant

DPW Employee reported seeing rats by the dumpsters behind Laurel Chinese restaurant. Rebecca went to all the restaurants in the area and put them on notice to keep their dumpster lids closed. This was rechecked several times to ensure they were in compliance.

356 Main St

Resident was compliant in ensuring that her lawn was mowed to lessen the likelihood of vermin.

Enquiries-None

Animal Bites-No animal bites reported

Summonses/Abatements/Violations

One notice of violation was sent to 356 Main St. There were no summonses or abatements issued.

Court Appearances-None

OPRA requests-None

Servsafe Food Handlers Classes-None held in June.

Vital Statistics

There were 3 deaths reported and 1 marriage license issued in June.

Health Education

Summer Newsletter was developed. All school nurses were sent NJDOH correspondence on the new tick curriculum.

Public Health Nursing/Communicable Disease Investigations

No new outbreaks reported.

One case of campylobacter, two of Hepatitis B, one of Hepatitis C and two of Lyme disease were reported in June.

July

Inspections

Hackensack golf club pool inspected. There were 5 retail food inspections in July including the re-inspection.

Temporary Licenses-None issued

Plan reviews & consultations-None to report

Complaints

Ackerman Avenue

This is a vacant property and there is poison ivy encroaching on adjacent property. Homeowner has been contacted and the complaint investigation is ongoing.

ShopRite

Resident complained about non-refrigeration of perishable food, the store was inspected and pies found to be refrigerated.

Boston Market

Employee put finger in/on the serving plates. The complaint investigation is ongoing.

Follow up from previous complaints

Kinderkamack Road

Sewage was reported coming out of the abandoned building at 184 Kinderkamack Rd. A Notice of Violation was sent and there have been no further complaints about the sewage.

Main Street

A Notice of Violation was sent. Resident required more time to have the lawn cut. It is now being maintained.

Enquiries-None for the month

Animal Bites

Three animal bites reported. All were dog to person.

Summonses/Abatements/Violations-None for the month

Court Appearances-None

OPRA requests-None

Servsafe Food Handlers Classes- None held in July.

Vital Statistics

There were 5 deaths reported and 3 marriage licenses issued in June.

Health Education-No events

Public Health Nursing/Communicable Disease Investigations

Two cases of Lyme disease

August

Flu vaccination clinic will be held Friday October 4 from 10 am to 12 noon at the Senior Center.

Councilwoman McGuire worked with NWBRHC on a program to test lead in the water. Kits, costing \$65, were distributed September 12. The second part of this process is for residents to drop their samples at Borough Hall on Monday September 16. The kits are available at NWBRHC so residents who missed the pickup September 12 could still obtain kits and have their water picked up September 16. The question was asked whether these kits were available free of charge anywhere, perhaps through Suez. They are available at Home Depot at a lower cost. A clarification was made that about the availability from Suez. If a residence is considered to be a high risk, they will receive the kits free of charge. For those not considered at risk Suez normally charges around \$100 so \$65 is a discounted price.

The rabies vaccination will be held Saturday, November 2nd from 12 pm to 1 pm at the DPW.

Inspections

There were 7 retail food inspections in July including the re-inspection. All were satisfactory.

Temporary Licenses-

One issued to the Police Department for the annual police campout

Plan reviews & consultations-None to report

Complaints

Boston Market

Complainant reported lack of gloves during food preparation. Coincidentally the business was due for a Chapter 24 inspection which was carried out and the violation corrected.

Kinderkamack Road

This was a new complaint of a sewer back up where raw sewage was observed coming through an open pipe. An environmental consultant was contacted to ensure proper clean up.

Follow up from previous complaints

Ackerman Avenue

This is a vacant property and there is poison ivy encroaching on adjacent property. Homeowner said the poison ivy was removed and on inspection this was confirmed as abated.

Boston Market

Employee put finger in/on the serving plates. Coincidentally the business was due for a Chapter 24 inspection which was carried out and the violation corrected.

Inquiries

Individual inquired about part time Hospice service. They were provided with a list of services from Bergen Family Center

Animal Bites-No animal bites reported

Summonses/Abatements/Violations

Boston Market-Inoperable hand sink in kitchen

Laurel Chinese-Failure to secure outer opening from pests, specifically rats. They left the front door open.

Court Appearances-None

OPRA requests-None

Servsafe Food Handlers Classes-

Food Managers Class and Food Handlers class held. There were no participants from Emerson. Marra's manager's license expired two days after the class. REHS will continue to follow up.

Vital Statistics

There were 9 deaths reported and 3 marriage licenses issued in June.

Health Education

Chantal conducted a presentation on the 10 most Common Infectious Diseases in Daycares at Assumption Church on August 29, 2019 at 11 am.

Public Health Nursing/Communicable Disease Investigations

There were two cases of campylobacter, one Lyme disease and one case of salmonellosis reported in August.

The Emerson Blood Pressure Program was held on August 8. There were 3 patients seen, all vital signs were within normal limits.

Correspondence from NJDEP regarding a 550 gallon #2 oil underground storage tank system granting Unrestricted Use – No Further Action Letter and Covenant Not to Sue was discussed.

Council Liaison Report

Councilman Knoller was absent due to illness.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion, re: Hookah Lounge and anti-vaping

No further updates available as the Councilman was not at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Future agendas will not have the Public Health Nurses report as a separate item as it is included in the NWBRHC report.

Discussion re: Car Show

At the recent car show there was a vendor, NoCo, (contact Joe Agnello) who did not appear to have applied for a food license. Three licenses were issued; one for Thai Elephant, one for Uncle Louie G's ices and one to the Chamber of Commerce who were going to use it for cooking themselves. Thai Elephant did not attend as they had a problem with the truck. On follow up Laura Litchault, Chamber of Commerce informed the Board of Health secretary that the temporary license that was granted to the Chamber of Commerce was the one that was used for NoCo. The Chamber of Commerce said that they were going to serve burgers, hot dogs etc. but on the day they used the NoCo truck. NoCo passed inspection and had paid so there was no further follow up.

Discussion re: Blood Pressure Clinics

The blood pressure clinics are being run by the Public Health Nurse Kirsteen Pinto, from North West Bergen Regional Health Commission on the second Thursday of every month between 10:30 and 12 pm. If it is permissible by the Borough, flyers will be posted in local stores like Stop and Shop and Shop-rite, the Senior Center and the library. The same could be done for the flu clinic. The flyer will be circulated to Board members.

There was a discussion about getting more seniors signed up for the reverse 911 system

There was a discussion about honoring Kay Hodges Angela was going to pass the suggestions made at the last board meeting on to Lois. There was no further update about this topic.

Motion by Linda Lahey, seconded by Corey Melillo, that the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Roll Call: CB=yes LL –yes SB=yes CM=yes

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Morris, Board of Health Secretary