

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EMERSON BOARD OF HEALTH WAS HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2018 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

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

Also present was NWBC Health Officer Angela Musella, Public Health Nurse Kay Hodges and Liz Morris, Board of Health Secretary.

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 7:50 p.m. by acting Board of Health President Nicole Argenzia.

Minutes were accepted with the correction in the Pet Census section where there was an extra letter after the final sentence. ‘.....will be done in the spring. T’. This will be removed.

Motion to approve made by Nicole Argenzia, Seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the minutes of the October 23, 2018 meeting be approved with the correction noted above.

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

The Animal Report was not available at the time of the meeting due to the changeover in staff from Peggy Di Lello to Liz Morris. The secretary reported that there were two pet licenses issued in October and one in November. For the next meeting the secretary will have the full reports for October, November and December.

Likewise, the October, November and December reports for vital statistics will be available for the January meeting.

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Activity Reports for October and November were circulated to the meeting and accepted as submitted.

October

Health Education

On October 6 a flu clinic was held at the Assumption Wellness Fair and 30 flu shots were administered.

Serve safe class held and one member of staff from Quick Check attended.

Chantal had a table at the Assumption Wellness Fair providing mental health information but unfortunately was not able to give her Power Point presentation.

Inspections

Ten establishments were inspected; Assumption, Early Child Center, Cradles to Crayons, 1 and 2, Emerson Hotel, Pimaan Thai Restaurant, Rispolis Bakery, Sendai Sushi, Sonic Suds (inspected as they have a vending machine) and Stop and Shop.

Emerson Hotel and Rispolis Bakery were conditional both were satisfactory on reinspection. Emerson Hotel was conditional as they have a double sink in the basement for washing dishes and they didn't have a sanitizer, soiled wiping cloths were stored on work benches, reusable items were stored in warm water, must be at 135° F, shellfish tags were not attached to the original batch of clams. This is important in case there were any reports of food borne illnesses it would be possible to identify where the shell fish came from and waters where they were harvested. Other violations included staff member not washing hands before putting on gloves to make meatballs, cups and glasses not being sanitized, beverage bottles being stored in ice that is used for customer's drinks. Staff need to use handwashing sink in the basement and do more dishes in the main kitchen upstairs. These issues were all corrected when the hotel was re-inspected.

Rispolis Bakery was conditional because they were doing dishes in the handwashing sink. Also, they did not sanitize the trays, they were washed, rinsed but not sanitized. Wiping cloths in the back-prepping area. The three-compartment sink was not set up correctly; it should be wash, rinse and sanitize and it wasn't. These issues were all corrected when the hotel was re-inspected.

No pool results.

No plan review or temporary foods.

Complaints

Two complaints. One person became violently ill after they had a Latte at Starbucks. Rebecca inspected checked the and temperature of the milk and the three-compartment sink sanitizer. Overall the sanitary conditions were fine. ***No further action required.***

Police accompanied a Bergen County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals officer to check a report of a cruelty to animal case. NWBRHC do not get involved in these cases and it was forwarded to Tyco Animal Control.

One animal bite reported.

There were no summonses of abatement notices.

One OPRA request for records of sanitary disposal and a water wells for 37 Kensington.

Vital Statistics

There were 13 deaths reported and 5 marriage licenses issued in October.

Communicable Disease Investigations

There were no communicable illnesses reported in October

November

Health Education

A rabies vaccination program was held from 11 am to 12 pm on Saturday November 10. Dana and Chantal ran the clinic. A total of 31 animals were vaccinated.

In addition to attending the rabies clinic, Chantal ran handwashing classes for pre-K and kindergarten classes at Memorial School and took Narcan training.

Inspections

Dunkin Donuts, J's bagels and cafe, Jersey Mike's, Laurel Chinese and Shortrounds were inspected. All were satisfactory except J's bagels and café.

The first inspection was carried out in June when the new owners took over from Golden Bagels and they needed a new license. First inspection was conditional because of the location of the handwashing sink. It should be in the back prep room to comply with new codes but it is in the front. The owners were told that it needs to be moved but on re-inspection on November 15 it had not been moved. According to the owners they have had several plumbers look at the location that the sink needs to go and have said it is not possible to put it there. It is a small kitchen but that is not an acceptable reason to not install the sink. Additionally, there were other violations which on re-inspection on November 29 had also not been corrected. These included soiled, discolored and denatured wooden cutting boards, three-compartment sink not set up discolored and soiled white cutting boards, soiled curtain behind the service counter, fly tape stored over prep area, wiping cloths in the kitchen not stored in the sanitizers and scoops without handles lying inside ingredients. The boards should have been removed.

Rebecca is going to re-inspect on December 14. There are a couple of options. Angela could call them in to her office for an administrative hearing. She would meet with them and inform them that they need to install a sink but wait until after the holidays to do this. Then give them two more weeks.

A second option would be to issue a summons

The board reflected that J's had been in business since June and have had three opportunities to install a sink. When Rebecca goes to inspect on December 14 if she finds that the sink has not been installed then a summons should be issued. J's Bagels can come to court and the judge will make the decision. If the judge agrees then J's could be fined. This action would not shut them down. Rebecca will give J's a violation notice if the sink has not been installed. They will then have three weeks to install the sink which will at least take them until after the holidays. At the end of this time if they have not installed the sink they will receive a summons. Discussion about who would issue the summons. ***Angela will find out who should write up the summons.***

Complaints

No complaints. One enquiry about beekeeping and the question came up about whether or not the town has an ordinance.

Vital Statistics

Three deaths in November and two marriage license applications.

Communicable Disease Investigations

One Legionella was investigated but the individual didn't seem to have any risk factors so it wasn't clear where they had contracted it. There were also three reports of suspected Lyme disease. These were investigated but none proved positive.

Public Health Nurse report

Only one person coming to the blood pressure clinic

Council Liaison Report

Council liaison was not at the meeting so there was no report.

Payment of Vouchers

Details were circulated with the minutes. It is not clear if any licenses were issued in November as this may have been a replacement. This will be confirmed in January.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion, re: Hookah Lounge

There is a need to write and gain approval for an ordinance for Hookah Lounges. There was some discussion about whether this could be added to the existing Council ordinance for vape shops. When the new Mayor and Council liaison has been appointed in January, they should be able to offer guidance on this.

The health assistant has polled surrounding towns and ask for an ordinance banning hookah lounges but was unable to find other towns with such ordinances. Westwood has ordinances but they are mainly concerned with vaping and prohibition of sale of tobacco and nicotine delivery products to people under the age of 21. They do not include Hookah lounges.

Angela will see if she is able to find ordinances that prohibit Hookah lounges and the health secretary will look for a copy of the Emerson vaping ordinance on the Borough website.

If this is located then the Board of Health could make a recommendation to add the prohibition of Hookah Lounges in the Borough to this.

Alternatively, it is possible for the Board of Health to create their own ordinance for Hookah lounges and then submit it to the Mayor and Council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion about appointment of Board of Health positions because of the retirement of Elaine Rizzo. Nicole has been acting president with there as is the role of the vice president. These positions can be appointed at the January meeting.

The Board of Health will obtain resumes and take suggestions from the mayor for the open position. The need to fill the position will be advertised on the Borough website and associated Face Book pages.

Resolution 4-18 2019 meeting dates

A draft was submitted by the health secretary for consideration by the Board. The second Thursday in February is Valentine's day so it was agreed that this meeting date would move to Tuesday February 19. The meeting will be held in the basement conference.

Motion to agree these meeting dates was introduced by Nicole and seconded by Cindy.

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

Contract with NWBRHC to provide Registrar services for 2019 was signed by Nicole as acting president and Liz. This will be signed by appropriate NWBRHC personnel and one copy returned for our files.

Contract with Tyco Animal Control was also signed.

The meeting noted that Elaine was honored at the NJLBHA Annual Awards Dinner. Nicole had proposed her for a Board of Health member of the year award. She did not win one, but was honored. The winner was from the Fort Lee Board of Health.

Beekeeping ordinance will be researched.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Morris
Board of Health Secretary