

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE EMERSON BOARD OF HEALTH WAS HELD ON JUNE 9, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOROUGH HALL.

These Minutes have not been formally approved by the Emerson Board of Health and are subject to change or modification at the next regular meeting at which time they will be adopted.

Roll Call: Elaine Rizzo, Nicole Argenzia, Cindy Bischoff, Linda Lahey and Susan Gibbons. Also present was Angela Musella, Health Officer; Darlene Mandeville, Health Inspector; Kay Hodges, Public Health Nurse; Council liaison Danielle Di Paola and Peggy Di Lello, Health Assistant

Guest: Robike W. Noll, Animal Rescue

The health assistant notified Board of Health members that in case of a fire follow the Fire Exit sign above the door to the left of the Conference Room and exit calmly.

The Board of Health meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Board of Health President Elaine Rizzo.

The Board of Health members saluted the Flag and had a Moment of Silence.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, Seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the Board of Health Minutes of May 12, 2016 be approved as written.

The Finance, Vital Statistics, and Dog Licensing reports for May were accepted as submitted.

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Activity Report for May was accepted as submitted.

Health Officer Angela Musella addressed inquiries and complaints for May.

May 4 - Miriam Comiskey, Hillsdale, revisited Just Pups and said the employees are not wearing gloves. She also said an employee took a Havapoo out of its cage, and it appeared that the back leg was either broken or sprained.

Tyco Animal Control was asked to investigate the injured Havapoo, and did not find any animals on the premises with a broken or sprained leg.

May 16 – Board of Education Administrator Phil Nisonoff inquired if the health department has a mechanism to check for mold in school classes.

The Board of Education should contact a mold remediation specialist.

May 19 – Sandra Savo, Valhalla, NY, claims she purchased a Chihuahua puppy in December, 2015 that was ill with kennel cough, upper respiratory infection and diabetes. Sandra said the young employee injected the puppy with medication. The puppy was brought to her veterinarian and passed away from illness.

Health Officer reported that two messages were left on Sandra's voice mail and she did not return the calls.

May 31 – Dr. Gallegos would like to know if there is a procedure for a child being bitten by chipmunks in her garage.

Treatment was not recommended, as the risk of rabies was very negligible. The procedure would be the same as any other wildlife, unless the animal was aggressive or sick with neurological symptoms.

The Public Health Nurse's report for May was accepted as submitted.

Health Officer Angela Musella noted that the nurse is interested in meeting with Emerson's public health nurse and supply her with literature to give to residents.

Council Liaison Report

Council liaison Danielle Di Paola reported that the Mayor and Council will adopt an ordinance at their next meeting banning the sale of dogs bred in puppy mills.

Payment of Vouchers:

Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission contract	\$33,052.90
NJ State Department of Health 5/1/16–5/31/16 Dog Licenses:	\$ 10.20

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Just Pups

Health Inspector Darlene Mandeville submitted May's inspection reports on Just Pups. She noted that records were incomplete and did not indicate where the dogs went that are not on the premise. The records in the files did not include health certificates for dogs. Importation records were incomplete and vaccination records were not included in the documents, as required.

Proper removal of gloves education was provided to Just Pups manager, as they were not being removed correctly.

Prescription medicine was not properly labeled for each dog, as required.

Disinfection practice is to use bleach for feeding bowls. There was no bleach on the premise at the time of inspection. The isolation room vent fan was covered with dust.

The vehicle used to transport animals was recently returned from the Bergen County Prosecutor's office. An inspection conducted showed interior temperature being 93 degrees, with no generator in use, and 86 degrees when stationary. Mr. Lo Saccio stated that he had inadvertently utilized the fan and not the air conditioner. The van would be tested again after its scheduled maintenance and prior to being utilized for animal transport. At the time of inspection, Animal Control Officer noticed that one of the dogs showed symptoms of illness. The dog was removed to isolation.

Summonses were issued by Health Inspector Darlene Mandeville on June 9, 2016:

- Failure to keep records of all animals received and/or disposed of.
- Failure to keep records on premise for twelve (12) months after the date the animal is removed from establishment, or euthanized.
- Records on premise were found to be without an Importation Certificate.
- Importation records were incomplete, and vaccination records were not included in documentation.
- Observed employee improperly removing gloves to minimize disease control.
- Prescription medicine was not properly labeled for patient.

The deficiencies from the last inspection were corrected, as there was bleach on the premise and the vent fan was cleared of dust.

The owner of Just Pups reported that the establishment sold 218 dogs in 2016.

b. Child Health Conference (CHC) contract.

Emerson entered into an agreement with Hillsdale Board of Health for Child Health Conference (CHC.) Since the contract was not included with the \$100.00 fee, the health assistant will forward it to Hillsdale's Board of Health President for signature. Copies of the fully executed contract will be sent to Emerson's Board of Health President, Borough Clerk and Chief Financial Officer.

NEW BUSINESS:

c. Abandoned Residential Property Maintenance Ordinance.

The Borough of Emerson expressed interest in adopting an abandoned residential property maintenance ordinance. Emerson would be able to put a lien on the property and be reimbursed for a landscaping company to maintain it. The Board of Health supports the adoption of an abandoned residential property maintenance ordinance.

Public Comments:

Robike W. Noll
473 Kinderkamack Road
Westwood, NJ 07675

Robike submitted an article on Just Pups having a history of alleged violations in the Valhalla, New York pet store.

“Article 26-A of the Agriculture and Markets Law requires the agency to consider denying a license renewal or revoking a license as a result of three or more consecutive inspections with critical violations. The owner requested an additional opportunity to renew his license, contingent on passing an unannounced inspection and payment of all fines. The store failed the subsequent unannounced inspection with critical deficiencies, and the owner was notified of the denial of the license renewal on February 12, 2016.”

The owner of Just Pups told the Mayor and Council that he has never purchased dogs from a puppy mill and never would. The owner explained that he has an animal care facility license. Robike noted that the owner has a breeder and broker license issued by the Animal Care Facility Act. Robike mentioned the owner has three websites that are selling puppies.

The Board of Health has licensed Just Pups as a kennel for many years. However, it is stated in the Municipal Code Book that, “when such application to conduct a dog kennel has been properly executed and delivered to the Clerk, the Clerk shall present the same to the Borough Council. After the Borough Council has considered the same and considered the place where said kennel is to be located and the number of dogs which are to be maintained therein, the Council may grant said license, or if the public interest demands, the Borough Council may refuse to grant same.”

Resolution No. 8-16, re: Closed Session
Matter of Potential Litigation – Licensing

Motion to go into an Executive Session to discuss matters exempt from the public was moved by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Cindy Bischoff, and carried by a roll call vote.

Roll Call: EJR NA CB LL SG

Motion to reconvene was moved by Nicole Argenzia, seconded by Cindy Bischoff, and carried at 9:48 p.m.

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, Seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that Resolution No. 7-16 be provided to the governing body. It states that after review and consideration, the Board of Health recommends that the Mayor and Council not issue a new license to Just Pups.

Roll Call: EJR NA CB LL SG

Motion by Nicole Argenzia, Seconded by Cindy Bischoff, that the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Di Lello

Margaret Di Lello
Health Assistant