

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Morris Plains Board of Health held on July 13, 2011 at 7:30 PM, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

The following members were present:

Present: Mrs. Peg Dugan
Mrs. Catherine Marshall
Mrs. Pam Nelson
Mr. Larry Ripley

Attending: Mr. Ben Samara, Sanitarian
Mr. James Norgalis, Health Officer
Mrs. Laurie Fu, Council Liaison

Absent: Dr. Dario Fenimore

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Dugan, who stated that adequate notice of this meeting has been published and posted in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, "Open Public Meetings Act."

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Marshall moved that the Minutes of June 8, 2011 be approved as circulated. This was seconded by Mrs. Nelson. Voice vote. Mr. Ripley abstained. The rest were in favor and the motion was carried.

Comments from the Public

None

Mrs. Dugan then welcomed our new Health Officer, James Norgalis and turned the floor over to him. Mr. Norgalis gave the Board a description of his background in the Health field, his educational background (currently working toward a PhD in Health Education) and his community involvement (volunteer firefighter for the past 22 years). He expressed his desire to always be available to us and how he looks forward to working closely with Morris Plains in the future. He gave the Board his contact information.

Mrs. Marshall asked if he is responsible for negotiating contracts with the towns Madison serves. He responded that he is responsible for initiating the negotiations but Madison's Board of Health is ultimately involved, along with the town Council. He announced that he hopes to attend our meetings on a quarterly basis. He concluded his remarks by noting that a meeting will take place on August 2 between Madison and Morris Plains. Mrs. Dugan will represent our Board at this meeting.

Reports

Mr. Samara reported that Jersey Boy Bagels, Morris Plains Pharmacy, Primavera's, Broadway Café, Acme Supermarket, Sunrise Assisted Living, Collins Pub, Atlanta Bread and the Weichert Cafeteria were all inspected in June and received Satisfactories.

Mr. Samara conducted the opening inspections for both the Community Park Pool and the Idlewild Pool.

There was a summons issued as a result of a dog bite on Winding Way. The dog was up to date on its rabies vaccinations. There was a court date scheduled for July 2. Mr. Samara plans to review the court report. The owner is planning to install an invisible fence in the near future.

There was also a report of animal feces at a residence on Malapardis Road. After Mr. Samara's intervention, the resident agreed to speak to the dog's owner about a dog pen that sits on the property line. He claims that it is not cleaned on a daily basis and therefore emits a foul odor.

Mr. Samara closed his report with the news that Tony's Pizza has acquired a new grease/oil container. It is designed to prevent leakage and is collected regularly by the company.

New Business – Pets in Restaurants

Mr. Ripley brought up a recent situation where a small lap dog was brought into a restaurant by its owner, when purchasing take-out food. Mr. Samara and Mr. Norgalis offered to research the laws, since this was not a seeing eye dog.

A report was received about tall, unsightly grass at a home on Franklin Place. Mr. Samara plans to speak with Mr. Salerno, since he may have checked on this situation in the past.

At the Board's request, Mr. Samara agreed to research available material on bedbugs. Madison could then make this information available to Morris Plains residents through our website. Mrs. Marshall suggested making this material available at our Wellness Day in October, as well. Mr. Ripley would like to see it distributed in our schools, if possible.

Correspondence

Letter from Madison requesting a meeting with our Board President

Letter from a resident about approaching a cat, that subsequently bit her. The letter detailed her doctor visit, call to Madison, and subsequent visit to the hospital for a rabies shot. Mr. Samara was in touch with her physician. Mrs. Fu spoke with our Animal Control Officer, Meredith, in Denville. Mrs. Dugan offered to contact the physician to assure him that the Board has addressed the matter. A discussion then took place

regarding who a bite must be reported to. Mrs. Fu has done some research and would like to educate our residents about the procedures to follow, through articles in Plains Talk. She distributed this information to the Board to read over during the next month and give her their feedback via email.

Publicity

Mrs. Marshall has placed the dates for our Wellness Day and Wellness Day sign-ups in the upcoming issue of Plains Talk. Mr. Ripley will check with Madison about placing articles in the local papers. Mr. Ripley has also placed the information on Patch.com.

Mrs. Fu was able to secure an outdoor bulletin board for advertising the sign-ups. Borough School's nurse plans to place the Wellness Day information on the school website once school is in session.

Mrs. Dugan plans to check with Madison on the return of the skin screening, as well as adding eye screening to the Wellness Day services.

Council News

Mrs. Fu reported that the Family Day at the end of June was a huge success. The 9/11 Memorial is progressing nicely. Paving projects around the Borough are being completed. The Train Station plans to begin its renovations soon.

There being no further business, Mrs. Marshall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mrs. Nelson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Carole J. Howell
Secretary