

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Morris Plains Board of Health held on November 9, 2011, at 7:30 PM, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, New Jersey.

The following were present:

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

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Dugan at 7:31 PM. Mrs. Dugan 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."

### **Sanitarian's Report**

Mr. Norgalis reported that the last two weeks have been very busy. There were a number of inspections conducted by Ben Samara.

Ben handled a lack of hot water in one of the school buildings. Since there was no food preparation conducted in the school and the restrooms did have water, the school was granted permission to remain open. Hand sanitizer was widely utilized during this time. They were issued a Conditional until the problem was resolved. It was taken care of quickly. Upon Mr. Samara's return the next day, the hot water had been restored and the Conditional lifted.

Mr. Ripley asked for clarification of when an establishment must be closed down when a water problem occurs. Mr. Norgalis explained that it is on a case by case basis. An extensive outage that involves not having any water at all, would result in a closure. But the lack of hot water in this case did not necessitate closing down.

The question was brought up about how well Morris Plains fared in light of the recent storm. It was determined that the Borough did very well. The Board asked if a restaurant owner is obligated to call the Health Department for an inspection, once they have lost power. The answer from Mr. Norgalis was yes. He added that Madison routinely goes out to inspect once an outage has occurred. He told the Board that a walk-in freezer cannot go above 45 degrees. If unopened, it can keep the food cold for 20 to 30 hours, even without power. A home refrigerator is safe for about 12 hours.

Municipal parking lots are checked routinely for litter and have been satisfactory. A complaint of a small rodent on a residential street was unsubstantiated. It was confirmed that Coco Pazzo has now closed.

Mr. Ripley was still concerned about pickles being left on tables at eating establishments. Mr. Norgalis assured him that he has checked and the pickles are being changed. When asked if the pickles must be covered, the answer was no, as long as they are changed after each table seating.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Ripley made a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2011 meeting, as circulated. Dr. Fenimore seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**New Business**

Mr. Norgalis brought up a suggestion for fee ordinances in the future. He noted that many towns are beginning to change to a tiered system of fees for food establishments. He explained to the Board how the categories run:

- Category 1 – all food is sealed
- Category 2 – fast food and delis
- Category 3 – those making bulk food & reheating(diners/restaurants)
- Category 4 – special operations (sushi restaurants, smoke houses)

Mr. Norgalis explained how the fees go up as the categories rise, since the inspections take longer. The Board agreed that this would be something to consider in the future.

**Correspondence**

County Housing Authority – there was a request for information on whether or not the Borough has Section 8 housing and whether or not children in such housing have been exposed to lead. Mrs. Dugan agreed to look into the matter.

Contract for Dr. Werner

**Bills**

Third Quarter bill from Madison Health Department in the amount of \$23,278.25

Dr. Fenimore made a motion to approve payment. Mrs. Nelson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Mrs. Dugan - yes	Mrs. Marshall - yes	Mrs. Nelson - yes
	Mr. Ripley - yes	Dr. Fenimore - yes	

Motion carried.

**Publicity**

The Board agreed to check to see if the Rabies advertising was being placed in the upcoming edition of the Plains Talk.

**Old Business**

Wellness Day Statistics – Mrs. Dugan reported that 62 residents participated in the blood work. This was a noticable increase over last year’s 47. The male cancer screening had half as many participants (down from 14 to 7), while the female screening increased from 7 to 11. 142 flu shots were given that day and 66 administered during the second flu clinic. The derma screening had 22 participants and the Respiratory screening had 26. Overall 3 residents were referred to their personal physicians.

The Board then discussed their feelings as to the success of the day. It was agreed that the good advertising seemed to have gotten the word out. The new banner was hung by Borough School, notice was put in Highlights and on Patch. The only improvement that Peg plans to look into is the ability to start the flu shots earlier in the day.

**Council News** – Mrs. Fu reported that a new employee has been added to the Clerk’s office. The DPW has replaced the roof on the Community Park pool building. And finally a report that

the governor visited Greystone Park and announced that the state will give funds for its return to the county for open space.

**New Business** – Board Member Catherine Marshall introduced the following Ordinance and read the same by title and moved that it be passed on first reading. Ordinance No. 1-2011, an Ordinance of the Board of Health of the Borough of Morris Plains to amend and supplement App. A.7-9, “License Fees; Exemption,” in Article 7, “Retail Food Establishments,” all as set forth in the appendix of the “Revised Ordinances of the Borough of Morris Plains, New Jersey, 1972.”

Board member Pamela Nelson seconded the motion.

The President of the Board ordered the Secretary to call the roll on the passage of the above Ordinance and the vote was as follows:

Board President Dugan - yes                      Board Member Fenimore – yes

Board Member Marshall - yes                      Board Member Nelson - yes

Board Member Ripley - yes

Thereupon Board Member Dugan offered the following resolution:

Whereas, the above Ordinance was introduced and read by title at this meeting on November 9, 2011 and passed on the first reading.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that at a meeting to be held on December 14, 2011, at 7:30 PM, prevailing time, at the Municipal Building in the said Borough, this Board will further consider for second reading and final passage the said Ordinance.

And be it further resolved that the Secretary of this Board be and she is hereby directed to publish the proper notice therefor, including the Ordinance, post the Ordinance on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and to make copies available to members of the general public, prior to public hearing at second reading.

Board Member Fenimore seconded the resolution.

The President then directed the Secretary to call for a vote on the setting of the public hearing and the publication of notice thereof:

In favor: all

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

**Emergency Calling** – Mrs. Marshall then brought up the procedures followed in the wake of the recent storm. She noted that several neighboring towns notified their residents about the emergency plans. She worries about our senior population not being notified of such plans here. Dr. Fenimore suggested the population providing the Borough with cell phone numbers, so that everyone could be notified. Since seniors could be somewhat cut off without phone service, this way neighbors receiving calls

could check on these elderly neighbors. Our Borough Clerk did receive numerous calls after the storm and these residents were directed to report to Community Park, where they would receive shelter. Mrs. Dugan plans to look into whether or not the Board of Health needs to play a part in such emergency situations. Mrs. Fu will bring these concerns to the Council, as well as the Police Chief. Mrs. Dugan will speak with Steve Donnelly and James Norgalis about the Board's concerns.

There being no further business, Dr. Fenimore moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mrs. Nelson. Voice vote. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Carole J. Howell  
Secretary