

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Morris Plains Board of Health held on January 9, 2013 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
Dr. Dario Fenimore
Mr. Jack Doherty

Attending: Mrs. Cindie Bella, Public Health Nurse
Mr. Frank Mangravite, Council Liaison

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Dugan at 7:40 PM. She 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.

Mrs. Dugan began by introducing the newest Board Member, Mr. Jack Doherty, and welcoming him to the Board. She then gave a short background on Mr. Doherty and his service to Morris Plains. She also requested that a letter be sent to Mr. Ripley, thanking him for his service to the Board of Health.

Mrs. Dugan then introduced the Public Health Nurse, Mrs. Cindie Bella, from the County Health Department. Cindie will be servicing Morris Plains residents. Cindie gave the Board a synopsis of her background in the health field. She then explained what she will be doing for Morris Plains. She has already contacted every school and day care facility. She has until the end of January to visit each location to verify that all immunizations of attending children are up-to-date. She explained that the children who have not been vaccinated for the flu will be removed from their school. She will be monitoring communicable disease reporting. Cindie explained how data is entered into the system (Lyme Disease e.g.) as soon as it is positively identified by a lab.

Cindie will be on-site in Morris Plains and the logistics of where and when she will be available will be worked out at tomorrow's meeting between Borough officials and County Health officials. She gave us an example of another small town that she covers. There she follows 4 residents on a weekly basis to check their blood pressure.

Cindie mentioned that she had handled the medical component at Mennen Arena during Hurricane Sandy. Mrs. Marshall asked what the numbers were that utilized Mennen. It was approximately 100 people from the county. The numbers had been higher during the previous year's storm, since many came to this facility from Atlantic County. There was a problem of cold temperatures at Mennen, so eventually people were moved to the Police Academy site. Mr. Mangravite then mentioned how he and Peg Dugan have been discussing their concerns about the elderly within the Borough who are shut-

ins and might need a home visit from a nurse. They are concerned about residents who need oxygen and who keep medications refrigerated. These people might be stranded in a storm. The Borough and the County plan to work together to make these people self sufficient.

Cindie meets with all of the Public Health nurses in the County on a monthly basis. They monitor the needs of their residents closely. A locked cabinet has been purchased and will be kept in Cindie's office for the records pertaining to Morris Plains. Doctors fax results to her regularly. She concluded by mentioning that the County website lists all upcoming Rabies Clinics and their dates.

Mrs. Dugan then distributed the emergency contact information for the County. She also showed the Board the letter that the Board mailed to every food handler in the Borough, in which she explained the transition to the County. The Board was also shown the inspection forms that will now be used.

Mrs. Dugan mentioned that she and Carlos Perez are looking into training for Board of Health members. Many classes are offered on-line and others are held nearby at the Police and Fire Academy. Board members were then given copies of the NJ Local Boards of Health manual.

Environmental Health Specialist's Report

Mr. Perez conducted inspections of the Shop Rite premises, as well as Arthur's. Everything was satisfactory at both establishments.

Dr. Fenimore was concerned that the last report from Madison only covered the first 4 days of December. Mrs. Dugan will check with Madison on it.

New Business

Rabies Clinic - Reminder cards have been mailed to all residents with a pet due for a rabies vaccination this year. Carlos Perez will be present, as well as Meredith Petrillo, Animal Control Officer from Denville, to assist Dr. Werner and the Board. Mrs. Dugan announced that the police will be present and all attendees will be required to park in the public lot behind the Borough Garage or on Keenan Place. Mr. Perez will be bringing the vaccine supply.

Council News – Mr. Mangravite reported that he is researching water reports relating to Morris Plains. The Borough receives its supply from three different sources. 8 million gallons come from the County, 2 million from Passaic Valley and 2 million from the 2 small wells in Morris Plains. About 3 years ago there seems to be an upward spiral of sodium in our own supply. One possible cause is determined to be the road salt that is utilized on a yearly basis. One remedy would be to cease using our own wells. Using other road products could possibly reverse the damage. The DEP feels it is coming from the ocean. Mr. Mangravite plans to continue his research and obtain copies of all reports for the Board. He has been researching alternate products to use on the roads. He would like to see the County test the water in Morris Plains residences.

There being no further business, Mrs. Nelson moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Dr. Fenimore. Voice vote. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Carole J. Howell, Secretary

