

Town of Dover
Board of Health, October 16, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Dover Board of Health was held in Town Hall, 37 N. Sussex Street, Dover.

Board President Marie Hoffman called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and announced that the meeting complies with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly advertised and posted.

Donna Cook, Secretary, called the roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Marie Hoffman, Sandra Scarneo, Donna Cook,
Constance Sibona-Foster, Carolyn Blackman,
Christopher Chapman

ABSENT: Jean Cater

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Poolas, Alderman
Donald Costanzo, Health Officer

President Marie Hoffman called for a motion to accept the minutes from the July 2006, Regular Meeting of the Board of Health.

A motion to accept the minutes from the July 2006 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was made by Donna Cook and duly seconded by Carolyn Blackman.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from Michael Frank to the HO dated 7/18/06; re: rabies vaccination information.
2. Letter from the NJ Local Boards of Health Assoc. to members of the Board of Health dated 7/26/06; re: membership.

3. Letter from the NJDHSS to the HO dated 7/31/06; re: Notice of Approval, PHPF grant.
4. Letter from the Zufall Health Center to the HO dated 8/2/06; re: National Health Week.
5. Letter from the Morris County Advisory Committee on Women to the HO dated 8/2/06; re: health services.
6. Letter from Viola Cook to the Registrar of Vital Statistics; re: thank you.

Marie Hoffman asked if there was any correspondence to discuss. Initially, the HO stated that there was no significant correspondence. However, Connie Foster asked the HO about the PHPF grant approval letter and if the check was received. The HO responded that the check was, in fact, received.

OLD BUSINESS:

The HO also distributed the summary of Health Department activities for the previous month and discussed with the Board various parts of the report.

Garbage tonnage for July 2006 was 505.42 tons; down from the same month one-year ago by 4.72 tons or 1%.

Garbage tonnage for August 2006 was 506.16 tons; down from the same month one-year ago by 28.21 tons or 5.3%.

Garbage tonnage for September 2006 was 469.43 tons; down from the same month one-year ago by 17.16 tons or 3.5%.

Garbage sticker receipts for July 2006 were \$3,657.50; up from the same month one-year ago by \$280.50 or 8.3%.

Garbage sticker receipts for August 2006 were \$3,872.50; down from the same month one-year ago by \$252.50 or 6.1%.

Garbage sticker receipts for September 2006 were \$3,555.00; down from the same month one-year ago by \$451.00 or 11.3%.

The following events/programs were conducted since the July 10th Board of Health meeting:

- Dog and Cat Census (29 summons issued) [concluded in July]
- Hand washing & Nutrition Program; Imagine & Learn Day Care Center; 7/14
- Safe Sitter Program; 7/10

- Tobacco Program; Summer Recreation; 7/20
- Osteoporosis Screening Program; 7/26; (7 participants) [measuring bone mineral density].
- Employee Appreciation Day; 9/1
- Rabies Vaccination Program for Dogs & Cats; 9/16 (69 dogs; 38 cats; 107 total)
- Nutrition & Body Fat Analysis; 9/21; Dover Senior Picnic
- Blood Pressure Screening; 9/21; Dover Senior Picnic
- AIDS Walk for Hope House; 9/30
- File of Life Program with Saint Clare's Hospital
- MC Head Start Health Fair; 10/7

The HO highlighted the dog census, rabies vaccination program, AIDS Walk, File of Life program, and the Morris County Head Start Health Fair. The Board briefly questioned and discussed the dog & cat census and File of Life Program. Several File of Life packets were given to Board members.

Carolyn Blackman commented on the Senior Picnic held on September 21st stating that the seniors enjoyed having Irma provide blood pressure screening at the program.

The HO prepared a Certificate of Recognition for the Dover Grill as requested. The certificate was signed by the Board President and the HO and awarded to the Dover Grill.

Carolyn Blackman suggested that local business owners that keep their establishments and sidewalks clean be recognized as well. Alderman Poolas explained that this would be more appropriately a function of the local Chamber of Commerce.

The HO also advised the Board that a part-time clerk was hired to help out with office work. Reynaldo Julve commenced work on September 5th and works 3 hrs in the morning for Code Enforcement and 3 hrs in the afternoon for the health department Monday through Thursday.

The HO informed the Board that a bond ordinance was passed providing \$20,000 for capital improvements to the health department. Because of the limited budget, the bulk of any alterations will be done by the street department during the winter months of the year.

The Board asked the HO if a representative of the Code Enforcement Department would attend a Board of Health meeting. The HO stated that he invited the Code Enforcement Department to send a representative to a Board of Health meeting but the invitation was declined. The Code Enforcement Department is represented at a committee/council type forum that permits public interaction.

The Board of Health reviewed the Animal Control Reports focusing attention on issues relating to roosters, pygmy goats, and...in particular...the expensive cost of providing emergency veterinary care to injured cats. The Board expressed its concern over the high cost of emergency veterinary services.

The subject of garbage and litter was raised and discussed by the Board. Sandra Scarneo related that she observed a person from “Ohh...Que Rico” restaurant on East Blackwell Street sweeping the sidewalk in front of the establishment. Although they were attempting to do a good deed, the person did not pick-up the swept litter. Instead, it was just pushed around and into the curb.

Ms. Scarneo’s comments led to further related discussions. Connie Foster recalled the issue of garbage containers and how they were defined. The HO stated that local ordinance does provide for the use of solid rigid containers with tight fitting lids or plastic bags. Ms. Foster expressed concerns about animals ripping open cheap plastic bags and felt that bags should be sturdy and thick enough to reduce this type of problem. The HO stated he believed the ordinance did not specify the thickness of the plastic bags.

On the topic of garbage, Sandra Scarneo suggested that when a Certificate of Compliance is issued by the Code Enforcement Department for a new tenant or change of ownership, a packet of information about garbage & recycling be included with the certificate.

Carolyn Blackwell asked the HO to take this suggestion to the Department of Code Enforcement. The HO will pass it along to Mr. Isselin.

Connie Foster informant the Board that a large clean-up of W. Blackwell Street under the Route 46 overpass was conducted on Saturday, October 14th. Approximately 26 people worked on the clean-up (volunteers from Dover and Howmet and community service people). Three dump trucks of debris were removed. Another clean-up is planned for this Saturday, October 21st.

Sandra Scarneo posed a question about whether or not there is a positive outcome from all of the clean-ups that are conducted. Do the clean-ups have a lasting effect or are we constantly picking-up garbage from the same places? This led to a brief discussion about the discouraging aspect of cleaning up the same places over-and-over.

NEW BUSINESS:

The following programs are scheduled in the forthcoming weeks:

- The New Party Drugs; 10/20
- Food Handlers’ Course; 11/1
- Influenza Vaccination Program for Seniors; 11/2

The HO explained all 3 programs in more detail to the Board with most discussion focused on the upcoming food handler's course and the influenza vaccination program. Because only partial shipments of influenza vaccine have been delivered, program planning has been difficult.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WHO WISHED TO DISCUSS A PARTICULAR ISSUE.

Alderman Poolas raised the subject of a newly proposed cigarette butt ordinance that the Board of Aldermen are currently working on. The ordinance was proposed in response to the nuisance created by excessive cigarette butt litter on sidewalks, particularly since the passage of the smoke-free air act. The cigarette butt ordinance will be incorporated into the property maintenance code.

Alderman Poolas will further investigate various types of public receptacles at the upcoming League of Municipalities Conference. Some receptacles have cigarette butt containers built into them. Alderman Poolas will check them out.

Alderman Poolas distributed a copy of the Food & Beverage Vending Machine Code to the Board for review and comments at the next meeting. Alderman Poolas is conducting a survey to determine where there are vending machines that do not have licenses. It is felt that there are many unlicensed vending machines throughout the town.

The Board proceeded to discuss food vending machines at length; fees and procedures for licensure. Chris Chapman commented that you don't really need to send an inspector to do a sanitary inspection. However, the Board agreed that persons who had vending machines should pay for the permit as the law requires.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO WISHED TO DISCUSS A PARTICULAR ISSUE.

No members of the general public were present.

Upon completion of the public portion of the meeting, President Marie Hoffman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion to adjourn the meeting** was made by Christopher Chapman and seconded by Carolyn Blackman.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

MEETING ADJOURNED