

Town of Dover
Board of Health, October 20, 2008

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

Board Secretary Donna Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Board Secretary, called roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Donna Cook, Irene Hansen, Constance Sibona-Foster,
Sandra Scarneo, Christopher Chapman, Carolyn Blackman

ABSENT: Marie Hoffman

ALSO PRESENT: Patrick Donofrio, Alderman
Donald Costanzo, Health Officer

Board Secretary welcomed Lynn Sienkiewicz, RN, Parish Nurse from Trinity Lutheran Church. Ms. Sienkiewicz was a guest attendant invited by Connie Foster.

Secretary Donna Cook called for a motion to accept the minutes from the September 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health.

A motion to accept the minutes from the September 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was made by Irene Hansen, and duly seconded by Connie Foster.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from NJDEP to the health official dated 9/19/08; re: site remediation web site availability.
2. Letter from the NJDHSS to the HO dated 9/2008; re: public health priority funding activity plan review request.

3. Letter from National Benefit Builders, Inc. to the HO dated 10/1/08; re: discounted health care services.
4. Letter from Saint Clare's Hospital to the HO dated 10/9/08; re: health fair participation thank you.
5. Letter from the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease to the HO dated 10/10/08; re: program announcement.

Secretary Donna Cook asked if there was any significant correspondence. The HO stated there was no significant correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Copies of the monthly report and office files of food establishments that were inspected over the past month were distributed to the board for review.

The HO stated that he submitted articles to the Town Clerk's office for possible publication in the upcoming town newsletter on the subjects of: dog bite prevention, bed bugs and lead poisoning prevention. Several copies of each article were distributed.

The HO asked the town clerk to publish the dog bite prevention article first if there was only room for one submission.

Regarding previous discussions about bed bugs, Connie Foster expressed her on-going concerns about bed mattresses placed at the curb without stickers. Ms. Foster felt that individuals that placed mattresses at the curb should be ticketed. Ms. Foster explained that mattresses are initially deposited at the curb without stickers in the event that someone will take them. Only after no one has taken the used mattress are garbage stickers used to get rid of them.

This led to a lengthy discussion of bulky items left at the curb on weekends and the inability to get a local official to respond to the problem. The HO stated that Code Enforcement had extended its work hours to address these types of problems on Saturday.

Ms. Foster suggested that board of health members be issued IDs. This was briefly discussed with comments from Sandra Scarneo that her husband is a member of the planning board and that he was issued an ID. The HO will research this matter for the next meeting.

Alderman Donofrio asked if a representative of the Department of Code Enforcement could be invited to the next board meeting to provide an overview of its Saturday garbage enforcement program. The HO will invite someone from Code Enforcement to attend next meeting.

Ms. Foster made the concluding remark that although the issue of code enforcement was important, her principal concern for raising the subject of bed mattresses left at the curb is the growing spread of bedbugs.

The HO informed the Board that an advisory notice was sent to food establishments in October reminding restaurants that open windows and doors requires screens to prevent the entry of insects.

The following programs were conducted over the past month:

- 9/15: Stroke Screening at MC Office of Hispanic Affairs (St. Clare's).
- 9/17: Multicultural Health Fair; lobby of St. Clare's (St. Clare's).
- 9/23: Male Cancer Screening.
- 10/9: Female Cancer Screening.
- 10/17: Substance Abuse "Guiding Youth to Success", Skylands (St. Clare's).
- 10/20: Influenza Vaccinations for Seniors.

The influenza vaccination program ended shortly before the board meeting. A summary of participants will be provided in the October monthly report.

The HO mentioned the "Guiding Youth to Success" substance abuse program held last Friday at the Skylands. The HO was privileged to make conference introductions and welcoming remarks. The program was largely attended by nurses, enforcement officials and substance abuse professionals. Approximately 150 persons attended.

At last month's meeting an electronics recycling program was discussed. Connie Foster asked the HO what he found out conducting such a program. The HO explained that he had spoken with Tom Burbridge from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MUA). Mr. Burbridge offered that names of two recovery/reclamation companies that work with the county that provide containers and removal of TVs, computers, monitors, etc.

Ms. Foster explained that it is the board's intention to try to get the County MUA to include Dover as one of its scheduled Computer/TV Drop-Off Events and Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Day sites. The HO will check with the county to see if they have dates planned for CY 2009 and the possibility of Dover being selected as a site.

NEW BUSINESS:

The following programs are scheduled for the upcoming fall season:

- 11/8: Rabies Vaccination clinic for dogs and cats.
- 10/29: Food Handler's Course (2 sessions).
- 10/27: Influenza Vaccination program for the homeless at Trinity Lutheran Church (in partnership with Saint Clare's Hospital).

The HO stated that the reason for conducting the rabies vaccination program in November was to extend the licensing period to 3 years. In prior years, the program was done in September. Although the vaccine is typically effective for 3 years, the period of immunity ended in September preventing dog and cat owners from getting a pet license for the 3rd year. The currently planned November date allows pet owners to obtain a license in the 3rd year.

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

Connie Foster brought up the subject of prescription drug abuse and prescription drug disposal. Active in Dover's Municipal Alliance, Ms. Foster is investigating the feasibility of conducting a substance abuse program that includes prescription drug disposal. After conferring with Dover Police Officer Frank Coppinger, it was her understanding that a police officer would be necessary as part of the program. Also, Ms. Foster suggested the local hospital be contacted as a resource for drug disposal.

The HO will speak to Officer Coppinger and the hospital, as well as the County's Office of Health Management since they oversee hazardous waste spills. Perhaps the county can offer an effective means of disposal of old prescription medications.

On another issue Connie Foster expressed concern about the shortages of food in church food pantries and the difficulties in getting food donations. Also, Ms. Foster expressed concern over the role the local churches would play in the event of an emergency event. This led to a lengthy discussion on the subject of emergency preparedness.

Sandra Scarneo agreed and wanted to know more about the level of emergency planning and preparedness, particularly the role of the local Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The discussion concluded with a suggestion by Alderman Donofrio that the HO asks Dover's OEM Coordinator to come to the board's next meeting for a short question and answer session.

Connie Foster re-visited a previous board topic on the installation of hand sanitizers in town hall. The HO stated that he did ask administration to consider installing the sanitizer dispensers but did not receive a positive response. Although the dispensers were not expensive, once installed they represented an on-going maintenance and janitorial supply commitment and they were not deemed necessary.

The board requested the HO write a memo to the administrator strongly recommending the installation of a hand sanitizer at the entrance of the court room mentioning the support of the county's Office of Health Management in light of the advent of the cold and influenza season.

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

Lynn Sienkiewicz, Parish Nurse, Trinity Lutheran Church, was asked if she wished to raise any particular question. Ms. Sienkiewicz declined but thanked the board for her invitation to attend the meeting.

Upon completion of the public portion of the meeting, Secretary Donna Cook entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion to adjourn the meeting** was made by Christopher Chapman and seconded by Sandra Scarneo.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

MEETING ADJOURNED