

Town of Dover
Board of Health, September 9, 2013
6:30 pm

The regular monthly meeting of the Dover Board of Health was held at Water Works Park, 100 Princeton Avenue, Dover.

Board President Marie Hoffman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and announced that the meeting complies with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly advertised and posted.

Secretary Irene Hansen called roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Marie Hoffman, Darlene Kasko, Sandra Scarneo,
Irene Hansen, Judith Rugg

ABSENT: Donna Cook, Christopher Chapman

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Wilpert, Health Officer
Christine Noriega, Alderman/Liaison
William Close, Town Administrator
Nick Fink, Town Attorney Representative
Susan Downer, R.E.H.S.
Aracelis Vanderstarre, Deputy Registrar
Zoraida Ryerson, Sanitation Inspector
Donald Costanzo, Department Representative

President Marie Hoffman welcomed Nichole Haws and Rachel Fremeth, Community Health Nursing students from St. Elizabeth's College. Ms. Haws and Ms. Fremeth are attending the Board of Health meeting as part of a course requirement.

President Marie Hoffman entertained a motion to accept the minutes from the May 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health.

A motion to accept the minutes from the May 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was made by Darlene Kasko, and duly seconded by Irene Hansen.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. letter from the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission to the Dover Health Department dated 4/10/2013; re: summer recreational food service program.
2. letter from Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson dated 4/11/2013; re: golf tournament fund raiser.
3. letter from the Township of Mount Olive to the Dover Town Administrator dated 5/16/2013; re: copy of the shared service agreement for health services.
4. letter from Peter Ioannou, Attorney, to the Dover Health Department dated 8/7/2013; re: record request of dog bite.
5. letter from Jersey Central Power & Light to Frank Wilpert, HO, dated 9/4/2013; re: copy of notice of environmental investigation & cleanup.

President Marie Hoffman asked if there was any significant correspondence. The HO reviewed the correspondence with the board.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Sergio Ruiz, 5 Fred Terrace, applied to the Board of Health for a permit to fly homing pigeons from his property and appeared before the board to formally present his application and to answer any questions.

A packet of information regarding Mr. Ruiz's permit application was distributed to the Board of Health that including the following:

- letter from Sergio Ruiz to the Board of Health requesting consideration for permit.
- copy of the pigeon permit application.
- copy of the sketch showing distances to adjoining properties.
- animal control incidence report.
- copy of outstanding summons issued by the R.E.H.S.

Mr. Ruiz introduced himself and presented a brief overview of his housing and keeping of pigeons.

Marie Hoffman asked Mr. Ruiz how many birds he kept. Mr. Ruiz responded, 75 birds.

Irene Hansen asked Mr. Ruiz about the type of birds he kept and whether they received veterinary care. Mr. Ruiz said the birds were a type of homing pigeon that are considered specialty birds, and that they received veterinary care that includes immunizations and medications.

Frank Wilpert asked if the birds roost on houses. Mr. Ruiz responded that they only rest on his garage or coop and that they do not stop at any other locations. Mr. Ruiz added that unlike ordinary pigeons, the type of homing pigeons he kept do not defecate when flying; only when landed. He also pointed out that not all of his birds go out at the same time during training.

Judith Rugg asked Mr. Ruiz where are the birds before 10:00 am or after 5:00 pm during the permitted flying times according to the ordinance. Mr. Ruiz responded they are primarily in their coop.

Frank Wilpert asked how often the birds were exercised. Mr. Ruiz said 3 - 4 times a week. Mr. Wilpert commented that photographs would be helpful for the board. Mr. Ruiz said he would provide photos and offered the board an inspection of his premises at any time.

Sandra Scarneo asked if the birds attract other pigeons. Mr. Ruiz said no.

William Close, Administrator, introduced himself and recommended that the board hold the application in abeyance until such time that the Town Attorney can review the application and process, and the court can deliberate on the outstanding summons.

Further discussion focused on the possibility of scheduling a special meeting to hear the application with a town attorney present.

In agreement, Frank Wilpert, Health Officer, recommended the matter be tabled until after attorney review and a special meeting is held.

A motion to table the pigeon permit application filed by Sergio Ruiz, 5 Fred Terrace, pending attorney review and a scheduled special meeting to hear the application was made by Sandra Scarneo, and duly seconded by Marie Hoffman.

Judy Rugg Abstained

Remaining Votes: ALL AYES; NO NAYS

Copies of the monthly report for May through August were distributed to the board for review.

The Health Officer provided the board with the following updates:

- Dog & Cat Census: The census was completed. A report is enclosed in the monthly report. 124 summons were issued for no licenses; license fees with fines totaled approximately \$9,700; less the \$3,600 cost of conducting the census, generated approximately \$6,000 in revenue.
- Senior Picnic: the senior picnic was held on Sep. 5th. The health department provided blood pressures and educational information.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donna Cook announced that she will be resigning from the Board of Health. Donna has served on the Board for 14 years, since 1999. Donna also served as Board Secretary for 11 years, from 2001 to 2011.

The Board directed the Health Officer to provide a plaque recognizing Donna Cook's service to the Town of Dover and to invite her to the next meeting for a presentation.

The Health Officer informed the Board of the following upcoming activities:

- September 22 (Sun): Volunteer Appreciation Picnic honoring volunteers such as board members; Water Works Park from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.
- October 5: (Sat): Head Start Health Fair; health department provides a display.
- October 21 (Mon): Flu Clinic for Dover Seniors; Town Hall from 3:00 - 7:00 pm.
- November 2 (Sat): Rabies Clinic for Dogs and Cats; Crescent Field Parking Lot from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon.
- November 4 (Mon): Food Handler's Course; 2 sessions; 5:00 - 6:00 pm and 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm; Town Hall.
- November 12 (Tues): Male Cancer Screening ; St. Clare's; 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Judy Rugg offered to volunteer her services at the flu clinic as well as the Head Start Health Fair.

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

Marie Hoffman asked the Health Officer if there have been any issues associated with vaccine preventable diseases now that school is starting. Frank Wilpert stated that he was only aware of a possible case of measles that is, as of yet, unconfirmed.

Sandra Scarneo mentioned a recent recycling incident involving the spillage of recyclables during collection. Sandra approached the men on the truck and pointed out the mess and that the material spilled on the road should be picked-up. The worker was argumentative and the matter was reported to the health department who then contacted the contractor.

Ms. Scarneo stressed that this type of problem contributed to litter and unsightly conditions. This led to a general discussion on recycling and garbage collection.

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

Nichole Haws and Rachel Fremeth, community health nursing students from St. Elizabeth's College, thanked the Board for their attendance.

On behalf of the Board of Health, Marie Hoffman, wished them both well in their educational and career endeavors.

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 Darlene Kasko and seconded by Marie Hoffman.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

**MEETING ADJOURNED
7:50 pm**