Town of Dover Board of Health, October 18, 2010

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 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting complies with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly advertised and posted.

Board Member Darlene Kasko called roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Darlene Kasko, Marie Hoffman, Connie Foster,

Christopher Chapman

ABSENT: Donna Cook, Irene Hansen, Sandra Scarneo, Judith Rugg

ALSO PRESENT: Jack Delaney, Alderman

Donald Costanzo, Health Officer

Prior to a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2010 meeting, Christopher Chapman noted an error in the Correspondence section of the minutes. Letter #3 had a typographical error with the title of "Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics."

A motion to accept the minutes from the September 2010 regular meeting of the Board of Health, subject the above-cited correction, was made by Christopher Chapman and duly seconded by Darlene Kasko.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1. Letter from the NJDHSS to the HO dated 9/7/10; re: TB program website.
- 2. Letter from Morristown Memorial Hospital to the Dover Health Department dated 9/27/10; re: program flyer.

President Marie Hoffman asked if there was any significant correspondence. The HO stated there was no important correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Copies of the monthly report for September 2010 were distributed to the board for review.

Ben Falco, REHS, has been out for the month of September and part of October. Mr. Falco had knee replacement surgery.

The subject of animal control and feral cats was raised by Connie Foster following a comment regarding a prior incident of a rabid feral cat bite to a resident on S. Morris Street. A general discussion proceeded on the issue of rabies exposures and wildlife; i.e. stray or feral cats, and skunks.

Activities - Updates:

- 9/8: Skin Cancer Screening program; 21 participants.
- 9/23: Stroke Screening program; 23 participants.
- 9/27: MOVE TODAY exercise classes; 12 weeks; 215 E. Blackwell St.
- 10/2: Head Start Health Fair; 18 Thompson Ave.; lead screening; 43 children for the ages of 8 months to 12 years screened.
- 10/13: Tobacco Prevention program in the Middle School (9th grade).

NEW BUSINESS:

The HO announced that he will be retiring effective December 1, 2010, and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work for the Town of Dover.

The retirement of the HO prompted a lengthy discussion of his replacement. The HO explained that the process is currently underway, and that the two primary options are to either hire another full-time Health Officer or to contract to a regional health district for Health Officer related shared services.

The Board discussed the two options and unanimously felt the best option for the Town of Dover was to employ a full-time Health Officer for the following reasons:

- A full-time Health Officer would be most accountable to the Dover community.
- A full-time Health Officer would be best able to respond to wide-ranging emergencies.
- A full-time Health Officer would best be able to manage and oversee food safety responsibilities posed by a large number of retail food establishments.
- A full-time Health Officer would be most familiar with the intricacies of Dover.
- A full-time Health Officer can directly engage walk-in residents and promptly address their concerns. Dover is a "walk-in" community with residents coming into town hall and the health department frequently.

A motion directing the Health Officer to inform the town administrator by memorandum its recommendation regarding the replacement of the retiring health officer with a full-time health officer for the above-listed reasons was made by Connie Foster and duly seconded by Darlene Kasko.

Upcoming programs:

10/6: Stress Management & Pregnancy; Head Start

10/21: Female Cancer Screening Program, St. Clare's Community Health Center

10/25: Flu Shots for Seniors.

11/13: Free Rabies Vaccinations for dogs and cats.

11/15: Food Handlers Class.

The HO informed the board that he has started to receive partial shipments of flu vaccine, and expressed concern that the completed order may be delayed.

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

Connie Foster briefly mentioned that she recently attended a County Day Fair in Randolph. An attending Randolph public health nurse discussed the incidence of adult pertussis and informed Ms. Foster that pertussis vaccinations were available for a \$15 fee.

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 Darlene Kasko and seconded by Marie Hoffman.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

MEETING ADJOURNED