

Approved 11/12/15

BOARD OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD MEETING, September 17, 2015

The meeting of the Board of Health was held on the above date. Mr. Howard Bader, President, read the Board's compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The following members were present: Howard Bader, Dr. Michael Basista, Dr. Daniel Feit, Berton Greenberg, Mark Alvarez, Dr. Etta Frankel, Ruby Pujols, Registered Environmental Health Specialist and Sam Yanovich, Health Officer

Absent: Maria Xylas, Councilman Max Basch

Also present: Mrs. Maxine Ramey, Acting Board of Health Secretary Christine Attanasio

A motion was made to approve the minutes of June 18, 2015. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor; none were opposed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to report.

**NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE**

The Borough's Annual Flu Clinic will be held on Monday, September 21, 2015, at 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. in the McCandless Room. Mrs. Attanasio noted that notices were posted throughout the Borough; flyers were distributed to the Senior Center and Library. Flyers are available at the Reception Desk and Information Center in the Lobby at Borough Hall. A notice was posted on the website and the event information was also posted on the electronic message board located on Tenafly/Riveredge Roads. HARP submitted the press release to the local newspaper. The make-up dates are Friday, October 2, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Tenafly Public Library and October 16, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Tenafly Senior Center.

Dr. Frankel suggested offering the flu vaccine to high school seniors. Sam Yanovich will follow-up.

The members reviewed Ordinance No. 15-11, "Sales of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products". The ordinance adopted by Mayor and Council on August 10, 2015 raises the age from 18 to 21 to purchase tobacco products in the Borough. The ordinance will be enforced by the Tenafly police and the Tenafly Health Inspector. Although, very pleased with this ordinance, there was frustration that the Board of Health was not consulted before its resolution.

**REPORTS**

Health Officer Sam Yanovich noted that Mid-Bergen received 100% of the Fluzone Quadrivalent vaccine order. To date, they received 90 of the 140 doses of the high dose flu vaccine order and paid for by the Borough. Although the manufacturer, Sanofi Pasteur cannot promise a delivery date, there is no reason to believe that it will not be delivered in the coming

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weeks and be available for the flu make-up dates. At the flu clinic, there will also be offered two “No Preservative” formulations which are intended for either pediatric use, or medically prescribed patients. There are two new studies toward developing a universal vaccine for influenza. Both studies were conducted on animals. The CDC stated that flu vaccines offered only 23% effectiveness this past year, therefore the ultimate goal is to create a lifelong vaccine.

Sam reviewed Tick and Mosquito Borne diseases. The most common tick-borne diseases in New Jersey are Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever and babesiosis. Powassan, Heartland and Bourbon viruses are new to the northeast region and the U.S. There are no vaccines or medications for any of these emerging diseases, but supportive therapy can manage symptoms. A new mosquito-borne disease, Chikungunya Virus originated in the Caribbean and has since found two confirmed cases in Florida. Symptoms include an acute onset of fever, followed by joint pain, which can be severe and debilitating.

In continuing Mid-Bergen’s accreditation, an initiative is to offer training to staff in Mental Health First Aid. The course will deal with risk factors, warning signs, offer information on various associated disorders, an action plan to help someone in crisis and relay professional and self-help resources.

Ms. Pujols, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, reviewed her June/July/August 2015 report with the board. Inspections were done on multiple restaurants, youth camps and pools with all receiving a satisfactory rating. She did one (1) spot check.

She handled a complaint regarding the condition of the pool at the Tenakill Swim Club. A member of the club complained that the ecofriendly paint that was applied to the main pool was affecting her skin. Ruby explained to the member water samples are sent to the certified lab authorized by the NJSHD to performs weekly tests to assure that the bacterial and chemical levels of the pool water is within the appropriate ranges. At the beginning of the season, the Tenaflly Swim Club’s pool was green but the proper chemicals were administered and the water sample was tested. Ruby made a follow-up inspection and both Clubs now have a satisfactory rating. During this period, there were four (4) dog bite cases reported, a request that a resident license her cats and a complaint regarding rats. She is continuing to collect, review and enter information into the state computer system for the annual local health report to the NJSHD.

Mrs. Maxine Ramey, 156 East Clinton Avenue addressed the board regarding the neighboring property at 150 East Clinton Avenue. According to Mrs. Ramey, the property has been vacant since 2011. The landscaping on the property is overgrown and decaying tree limbs are a hindrance to Mrs. Ramey’s property and home. The vacant house has now become a breeding ground for stray animals. Mrs. Ramey requested that the Health Inspector investigate this situation. Ruby took the information and will look into the situation.

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There was further discussion by the board members in regard to condemned and/or vacant properties in the Borough. Rudy will investigate for the next meeting. Since the Building Department enforces the Property Maintenance Code, residents should register their complaint with that department regarding property maintenance violations in the Borough.

Dr. Frankel would like to promote better fitness for senior citizens in the Borough. She would like to research inexpensive options for indoor swimming facilities. Dr. Feit suggested contacting the JCC to inquire about a discounted rate for seniors. Dr. Frankel noted there is a facility in Englewood, Silver Sneakers which caters to senior citizens. It provides inexpensive exercise classes for seniors to help them be more active.

The next meeting of the Board of Health is Thursday, November 12, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Richard D. Wilson Committee Room.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor of the motion; none were opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Attanasio  
Acting Board of Health Secretary