

Approved 3/17/16

BOARD OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD MEETING, January 21, 2016

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 7:30 p.m.

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

Absent: Dr. Michael Basista

Also present: Council Liaison Maxim Basch, Board of Health Secretary Valerie Nicolosi

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 12, 2015. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor; none were opposed.

OATHS OF OFFICE

The following individuals read the Oath of Office for their respective positions:

Councilman Maxim Basch
Daniel Feit
Maria Xylas

Council Representative, Tenafly Board of Health
Member, Tenafly Board of Health
Member, Tenafly Board of Health

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2016

Mr. Yanovich presided over the election of officers.

Nominations for President:

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Mr. Howard Bader as President of the Tenafly Board of Health. The nominations were closed. A voice vote carried the motion unanimously. Mr. Bader is the President of the 2016 Tenafly Board of Health.

Nominations for Vice President:

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Dr. Etta Frankel as Vice President of the Tenafly Board of Health. The nominations were closed. A voice vote carried unanimously. Dr. Frankel is the Vice President of the 2016 Tenafly Board of Health.

Appointment of Secretary to the Board:

A motion was made and seconded to appoint Mrs. Valerie Nicolosi as the Secretary to the Board of Health. A voice vote carried unanimously. Mrs. Nicolosi is the Secretary to the 2016 Tenafly Board of Health.

REPORTS

As Health Officer Sam Yanovich had another meeting in Closter, he was called to review his report with the board. The level of flu activity in the State is classified as “moderate” according to the last State report available from the week ending January 9, 2016. The Northeast region is the only region classified as “low. He noted that a child from Mercer County tested positive in early January for variant influenza A H3N2. The child had a mild illness and has fully recovered.

Mr. Yanovich reported on the Zika virus, which was first identified in 1947 in Uganda and is transmitted by the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito. The first U.S. case was documented in Puerto Rico recently. A Bergen County woman tested positive in late December. She apparently acquired the virus while in Columbia. Zika has some similarity to Dengue such as fever, rash & joint pain, but is usually mild, and death is rare. Early detection, as well as insect/mosquito control procedures, will help alleviate outbreaks. Local transmission in the U.S. is possible since Aedes mosquitoes are present in many states.

A webinar reviewing the State’s Emergency Operations Plan Public Health annex, known as Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF 8), will be offered on Friday, January 22. at 2:00 p.m. ESF 8 gives overall guidance to meet public health, emergency medical services and medical care needs in preparation for, during and in the aftermath of a major emergency. The Department of Health is responsible for coordinating the activities carried out under this annex to the State EOP. Mrs. Nicolosi will forward an email with the webinar information to board members tomorrow.

Mr. Yanovich reviewed a breakdown of New Jersey Rabies Cases for 2015 by county & species. Bergen County had the 3rd highest number of terrestrial cases (i.e., other than bats) with nineteen (19) cases and five (5) positive bat rabies.

There was a brief discussion regarding the renewal of the HARP contract and the Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission contract. Both contracts have slight rate increases. Mr. Yanovich gave a brief synopsis of the coverage for each contract. The services provided by these contracts are mandated by the State of New Jersey. Mrs. Nicolosi and Borough Administrator Jewel Thompson-Chin reviewed proposals from the County of Bergen in regard to these contracts for the same coverage.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Nicolosi gave a brief overview of the 2016 Budget which was submitted to the Mayor & Council for approval. Board members had received a copy of the budget for review in December.

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A motion was made and seconded to approve the following contracts for the 2016 calendar year:

- HARP (Hackensack Awareness Regional Program) \$18,018.00
- Mid-Bergen Regional Health Commission \$46,276.00
- Cooper Pest Solutions (rat control services) \$ 1,980.00
(2nd proposal received—provided less service)

A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor: none were opposed

CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that Mrs. Nicolosi had forwarded an email from Borough Administrator Jewel Thompson-Chin regarding vacant homes and the Borough Code related to properties that may be deemed uninhabitable.

REPORTS (continued)

Ms. Pujols, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, reviewed her report which covered November and December 2015 and January 2016. Many inspections were done at numerous food establishments and at a child care center. She reviewed the two (2) dog bite cases which occurred during this timeframe. Complaints varied from stray cats, rats seen at homes in the Borough and an issue with a dog not being properly leashed.

There was some discussion regarding the homeowner at a home in the Borough who may be in need of social services, perhaps from the County. Mrs. Nicolosi will reach out to Mr. Yanovich to see if HARP or the County can intercede in this matter.

OLD BUSINESS

There was much discussion regarding flu shots and having either CVS or Rite Aid come to the Senior Center to administer said shots. Mrs. Xylas noted that her school had arranged for Rite Aid to give flu shots, shingles vaccines and pneumococcal shots for teachers and spouses. She will contact the representative at Rite Aid before our next meeting to see how the program would operate should the Borough decide to move forward with this initiative. Mrs. Nicolosi will contact Mr. Yanovich to obtain his opinion on this matter as well.

Dr. Frankel noted that she had spoken with staff at the JCC. There is a discounted rate of \$600.00/year for senior citizens.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Basch gave a brief update on two (2) newly formed Mayor & Council committees. The Senior Citizens Committee is exploring the employment of a social worker for the Borough to aid seniors with issues such as reverse mortgages, Medicare coverage, etc. Mrs. Nicolosi has contact information at the County for some services. She will forward same to the Chair of the committee.

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He also explained that the Community Center Exploratory Committee will be looking at surrounding municipalities to see what each has in the way of community centers. Options for the center would include a swimming pool and basketball courts. The Teen Center does not have some of the amenities that some parents want for their children. He noted that an opportunity for a location might be the Tenaflly Swim Club, which has declared bankruptcy. There are many unknowns at this juncture. The committee is gathering information to be presented to the Mayor & Council.

Mrs. Xylas indicated that she had written to Mayor Rustin explaining that many students at her school are required to do community service. The school has a program for snow shoveling for senior citizens. She would like to see this instituted in Tenaflly. Mrs. Nicolosi noted that the Mayor does have a list of volunteers. There will be an article in the upcoming newsletter regarding the program.

Mrs. Xylas also discussed a program for seniors that during the winter months recycling could be picked up at the rear of the property instead of having to be brought to the curb. Councilman Basch will bring both of these items up with the Mayor & Council and the DPW Director to see about developing such programs.

Councilman Basch updated the board regarding the recently adopted tobacco ordinance. The ordinance will be modified to include that businesses must display signs. The Borough will develop and distribute the signs to them. Also, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce, there will be an ordinance passed to permit the sale of alcohol in the Borough on Sundays until 10:00 p.m. (presently 6:00 p.m.)

The next meeting of the Board of Health is Thursday, March 17, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Richard D. Wilson Committee Room.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor of the motion; none were opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie B. Nicolosi
Board of Health Secretary