

Approved 11/17/11

BOARD OF HEALTH

BOROUGH OF TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD MEETING, October 13, 2011

Dr. Herbert Lazarus 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: Dr. Herbert Lazarus, Dr. Daniel Feit, Howard Bader, Maria Xylas, Sam Yanovich, Health Officer, and Martha Rogalski, Registered Environmental Health Specialist

Absent: Dr. Galit Sacajiu, Dr. Hugh Evans

Also present: Council Liaison Jon Warmes
Board of Health Secretary Valerie Nicolosi

A motion was made by Mrs. Xylas and seconded by Mr. Bader to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 16, 2011, and the cancelled meeting of the Regular Board meeting of September 15, 2011. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor of the motion; none were opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Nicolosi noted that William Kuhns had resigned from the Board of Health. All board members were asked to forward names of individuals who they believed would be interested in serving on the Board of Health to Mayor Rustin. Mrs. Xylas noted that she had recently moved to an apartment in Edgewater; however, she still maintains a residence in Tenafly. Mrs. Nicolosi had checked residency requirements with the Borough Clerk. Mrs. Xylas is still permitted to serve on the Board of Health.

Tenafly Animal Hospital submitted a bill for the first half of the year, which was paid after receiving a letter from Mrs. Nicolosi. However, no bills have been received on a monthly basis, as was agreed, therefore, no subsequent payments have been made to them.

NEW BUSINESS

There was much discussion regarding the proposed Borough Dog Park. Councilman Warmes reported that at a recent Mayor & Council meeting a presentation was made by the Dog Park Committee. Board members would like to have a copy of whatever was distributed thus far as well as any future materials submitted. Mrs. Nicolosi will handle getting this information to the board members. Councilman Warmes noted that the next step is having the Borough Engineer submit a proposal for a survey of the Municipal Oval (across from the Post Office). Once the proposal is submitted, the committee will have to decide if it wants to pursue the matter further with fundraising to cover the engineer's costs. It was the general consensus of the board that it was not in favor of a dog park for Tenafly.

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Ms. Rogalski updated the board on the events after Hurricane Irene. Most businesses which lost power followed proper regulations in food handling and distribution.

Mrs. Nicolosi reported that approximately 200 people participated in the recent flu clinic on September 23, 2011. It was noted that it was a very rainy day and perhaps people stayed away for that reason. Flu shots will continue to be given on Friday, October 7, 2011, and Friday, October 21, 2011. HARP may continue with this program on Fridays when the nurse is in Borough Hall until the vaccine runs out. This information will be posted to the website.

There will be an educational program at the Tenaflly Senior Center on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. to be given by an urologist from Hackensack University Medical Center. The flyer has been posted to the website.

REPORTS

Health Officer Sam Yanovich reviewed his reports for September and October with the board. He discussed the 2011/2012 flu season and vaccine program. It was noted that a mutant strain of the avian/bird flue virus (H5N1) had been reported recently in China & Vietnam. This is the same virus from 2003. Although a deadly virus, it has never been proven to exhibit human-to-human transmission. It has only been shown to transmit to humans that are in very close contact with diseased poultry.

Mr. Yanovich explained the Public Health Shared Services Partnership Agreement between the Bergen County Department of Health Services and the Tenaflly Health Department for Emergency Preparedness. He asked that the board approve this agreement for the coming year in order to ensure cooperative planning for bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other public health threats. A motion was made by Mrs. Xylas and seconded by Mr. Bader to execute this agreement. A voice vote carried the motion. All voted in favor; none were opposed. Councilman Warms suggested that Borough Attorney William McClure and Borough Administrator Jewel Thompson-Chin review the agreement before it is forwarded to the County. Mrs. Nicolosi will provide a copy to both individuals for their input.

Mr. Yanovich advised the board that a full scale exercise testing how the public health system in the county will function during a biological-food borne attack began October 11th and finishes today. The major role players are the hospitals and the county emergency team.

He also reported on the outbreak of Listeriosis last month that was linked to cantaloupes from a Colorado farm field. This has heightened concerns over its presence in other foods, primarily deli meats that are sliced at deli counters, not the pre-sliced package meats. In a recent report, it was stated that due to potentially poor sanitation conditions at deli counters, such as

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unclean hands, cracked cutting boards, poor cleaning of slicers, there is a five times higher risk of listeria being present in retail-sliced meats over prepackaged meats. This research recommended eating deli meats within three to four days, or by the date stamped on the package. Prepackaged deli meats are prepared with additives that can inhibit the growth of unwanted organisms.

Ms. Rogalski reviewed her reports for the months of August and September. There were several instances of dog bites, which resulted in the issuance of summonses for not having the dog licensed. There were complaints regarding garbage with strong odors at various establishments. All have been working to remedy the problem. She will continue to do spot checks on these businesses.

She received a complaint about mold on a garage. The tenant may need her assistance with his landlord in getting assistance. It was noted that there was an issue with mold in Maugham School. Ms. Rogalski has spoken with Board of Education officials regarding the problem. A report is on file for this matter.

There was some board discussion regarding swimming pools and also the mikvah in the Borough. Mr. Yanovich will research regulations regarding the mikvah and report back to the board his findings.

There is a "gum pole" at the Middle School. The Board of Education will be notified of this issue and be urged to remedy the situation. It was reported that there were health issues at Red Mango with customers (primarily unsupervised children) using the self-serve yogurt machines. Ms. Rogalski will monitor that establishment to assure proper procedures are being followed. Board members noted that the new 7-Eleven is a big hit in town enjoyed by many youngsters and adults also.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011. Board members should let Mrs. Nicolosi know of their attendance plans to assure a quorum.

A motion was made by Mr. Bader and seconded by Mrs. Xylas to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 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