

**Regular Meeting of the Franklin Lakes Board of Health
July 6, 2015 – 7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the Franklin Lakes Board of Health was called to order by Mrs. Marilyn Fuhr at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building.

Mrs. Fuhr read the Sunshine Law Statement.

Roll Call:

Present: Marilyn Fuhr, President
Olivia Voellmicke, Vice President
June Linz
Rajan Melwani
Ann Swist, Council Liaison
Nancy Yarish, Secretary/Registrar

Absent: Stephan Billstein
Justin Musella, Alternate #1
Marjorie Vanacore, REHS Inspector
Joseph Kelly, Council Liaison

Greg Hart, Borough Administrator, attended the meeting to give a short presentation.

Minutes:

On a motion by Mr. Melwani, seconded by Mrs. Fuhr, and unanimously carried, the minutes from the March 2, 2015 meeting were approved. On voice vote, all in favor.

On a motion by Mr. Melwani, seconded by Mrs. Voellmicke,, and unanimously carried, the minutes from the May 4, 2015 meeting were approved. On voice vote, all in favor.

Presentation:

Greg Hart, Franklin Lakes Borough Administrator, gave a presentation on the statutory duties and responsibilities of the Board of Health. The Bergen County Community Health Needs Assessment and Improvement Plan 2013 were passed around and a copy will be made available for each Member of the Board of Health.

Greg Hart also discussed the contents of the Board of Health Member Orientation Manual written by NJ Health Officer Association. It is a guide to the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Health with three core functions of Public Health: Assessment, Assurance and Policy Development. A copy of this manual will be made available for each Member of the Board of Health.

Mr. Hart stated that the Mayor and Council's expectation of the Board of Health would be that the Board is active and involved in health-related issues in the community along with the administrative duties. Supporting the health officer is an important role and the state regulations outline the functions of the Board of Health listed in this report. It is important to familiarize yourselves with the county-wide plan and the priority areas. These are important areas that need attention on the county and local levels. It would be helpful to pick a couple of these priority areas and come up with programs that advance these interests.

Mr. Hart advised the Board to be front and center with the Mayors' Wellness Campaign working alongside this initiative as a combined effort. He explained the recent Living Healthy Program which educates the public on good nutrition and exercise through the Mayors' Wellness Campaign. The Board of Health could consider elder care and access to health care in offering services to Franklin Lakes' residents. Marla Klein of the Bergen County Community Health Services would be available to speak at a meeting along with representatives of Valley Hospital. Some of the fundraisers that the Borough is involved with raised money that can be used for wellness activities. If the Board comes up with ideas for a program, the promotion of these programs will cost money and it is available.

Greg recommended that the Board of Health get pertinent information on the website and through eblasts on a monthly basis. Mrs. Yarish asked if the Board of Health should merge with the Mayors' Wellness. Greg responded that they would not because they have separate focuses. The Mayors' Wellness incorporates information from the Board of Health and Recreation Department. They work independently from one another yet support each other.

Ann Swist commented that the Valley Health Group offers classes. Greg agreed and stated that they will come to the town to do a presentation. The only problem that occurs is getting people to come. They don't want to come to an empty room. Greg said we have the capability; we just have to know how to go about it, possibly join with other local towns as a shared community event. Mrs. Voellmicke said that people are just not aware of what is available and what is free. Mrs. Swist recommended that we provide a link on the website for classes offered online. One of the tools Greg offered is that he could have a survey distributed to the public to see what areas the residents would be interested in. Mrs. Fuhr recommended that we go through the Seniors Club to reach the residents that attend the monthly meetings with senior program health focus. Mr. Hart said there was a great program at the County regarding living with chronic disease which was well received and could be run again. Councilwoman Swist stated that the Seniors Club has had interesting presentations regarding looking for long-term care and would be open to a presentation relating to health.

Mrs. Yarish recommended that the Board of Health be present at the 2015 Town Fair and positioned next to the Mayor's Wellness table to draw a larger group to the table.

Mr. Hart discussed mental health and substance abuse as another opportunity for the Board of Health to take an active role. The Borough is starting a Stigma-Free initiative which is about the stigma related to mental health issues. The Borough is putting together a committee to address this issue and it would be an opportunity for the Board of Health to be represented in this initiative. Also, the Municipal Alliance is another group the Board of Health could become involved with as a partnership. The Municipal Alliance deals with drug and alcohol abuse. They are always looking for ideas to get their message out, stated Mr. Hart.

Mrs. Swist commented that she will be on the Stigma-Free Committee along with Mr. Wasserstein of the Municipal Alliance. Mr. Hart recommended that the Board of Health participate in training programs; for example the Stigma-Free Committee will be offering a Mental Health Training Program in the near future which the Board of Health member may wish to attend when it is announced.

Also, Mr. Hart said that the Board could have working subcommittees meet outside of the Board of Health meetings on some of these initiatives. Mr. Hart said we may want to meet more often.

Mr. Hart reviewed the NJ Regulations document with the Board. He advised that these reports be made available to any new members of the Board of Health.

Old Business:

Councilwomen Ann Swist reported that the Stigma-Free Committee in Franklin Lakes is now being formed with members from the mental health industry and Municipal Alliance. She stated that the Board of Health involvement would be very important in this initiative. Mrs. Voellmicke said that Town Fair would be a good place to promote this campaign with the banner, handouts and yard signs available to the public to raise awareness of the stigma associated with mental illness and how to combat that. Mrs. Yarish passed along information from the Bergen County Stigma-Free meeting she attended on May 6, 2015 with the County Freeholders.

Bergen County ranked No. 4 in the State of New Jersey in health rankings by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation report. A copy of the report will be provided to each Board of Health member with details.

New Business:

None

Reports:

On a motion by Mrs. Voellmicke, seconded by Mrs. Linz, and unanimously carried, the Sanitarian's inspection reports for the months of April 2015 and May 2015 were approved. On voice vote, all in favor.

Vouchers:

On a motion by Mrs. Voellmicke, seconded by Mrs. Linz, and unanimously carried, the following vouchers were approved: Board of Health Ricoh Copier \$820.80; Well Child Clinic Service April 2015 \$20.00; Bergen County Health Department 2015 Semi-Annual Payment 1/1-6/30/2015 \$32,681.20.

Open the Time for Public Comment:

Motion to open the time for public comment was made by Mrs. Fuhr, seconded by Mrs. Voellmicke. On voice vote, all in favor.

No comment from the public.

Motion to close the time for public comment was made by Mrs. Voellmicke, seconded by Mrs. Linz. On voice vote, all in favor.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mrs. Fuhr, seconded by Mr. Voellmicke, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Yarish
Secretary/Registrar, Board of Health