

**Regular Meeting of the Franklin Lakes Board of Health  
November 2, 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  
Stephan Billstein  
Rajan Melwani  
Ann Swist, Council Liaison  
Marjorie Vanacore, REHS Inspector  
Nancy Yarish, Secretary/Registrar

**Absent:** June Linz  
Joseph Kelly, Council Liaison

Mayor Frank Bivona, Dr. Nancy Mangieri, Bergen County Health Officer, Marla Klein, Bergen County Department of Health Services, Susan Boggia, Bergen County Office of Alcohol and Drug Dependency, were present at the meeting.

**Minutes:**

On a motion by Mr. Melwani, seconded by Mrs. Fuhr, and unanimously carried, the minutes from the September 14, 2015 meeting were approved. On voice vote, all in favor.

**Reports:**

A question was asked by Mr. Melwani regarding the different risks and the definition of the risk numbers. Mrs. Vanacore responded that a Risk 1 is for pre-packaged food distribution; Risk 2 is for food handlers involved in making sandwiches or handling bakery goods; Risk 3 is restaurant preparation when heating/cooling/cooking food; Risk 4 is food processing which includes vacuum sealing.

On a motion by Mrs. Voellmicke, seconded by Mr. Melwani, and unanimously carried, the Sanitarian's inspection report for the month of September 2015 was approved. On voice vote, all in favor.

**Vouchers:**

On a motion by Mr. Melwani, seconded by Mrs. Fuhr, and unanimously carried, the following vouchers were approved: travel expense for Bergen/Passaic Registrars Meeting \$16.18; 2015 semi-annual Bergen County Health Services \$32,681.20; TYCO Animal Control \$1,195.00.

**Old Business:**

The Franklin Lakes Town Fair was held on September 19, 2015. Mrs. Yarish set up the Board of Health booth the morning of the event with balloons donated by Colony Florist, oranges donated by Corrado's Food Market, along with mental health awareness brochures and yard signs designating Franklin Lakes a Stigma Free Zone. June Linz volunteered to be present at the booth the day of the Town Fair to promote the mental health initiative and answer questions. Mrs. Yarish reported that Mrs. Linz observed that the participants of the fair were more interested in the carnival rides and food than the information booths. There were not many visitors at the Board of Health booth and it could have been that the booth was set up away from the main street rather in front of the Municipal Building next to the Shade Tree Commission and the Environmental Commission booths. The event seemed more like a street fair and participants gathered along DeKorte Drive. The donation of the oranges was well received; but the yard signs and brochures were left behind.

The 2015 Flu Clinic was held on October 16 and there were 81 residents and volunteers who received the vaccine. Dr. Billstein recommended that in the future we consider the pneumonia vaccine for the seniors. Dr. Billstein recommended we check to see if Medicare covers this. Valley Hospital is presently contracted with the Borough of Franklin Lakes to offer the flu vaccine only for a budgeted amount of \$500.

Olivia Voellmicke reported on the Stigma Free Mental Health Training held on October 20, 2015. Rajan Melwani, Nancy Yarish and Olivia Voellmicke attended the eight-hour course and Mrs. Voellmicke was very pleased with the class and the instructors. Mr. Melwani added that he felt the program was well worth attending and we are now waiting for a follow-up Stigma Free meeting to be scheduled.

**New Business:**

Mayor Bivona reported that he has three candidates interested in the Board of Health openings. He is in the process of interviewing them and appointing new board members for 2016.

Mayor Bivona opened a discussion on the Borough of Franklin Lakes commitment to drug abuse awareness and prevention. He referred to his press release of September 25, 2015, announcing the Franklin Lakes initiative of enhanced resources to fight drug abuse (copies attached). The Mayor commended the Municipal Alliance for the efforts they have made dealing with drug abuse; but he would like to do more with regards to this serious problem. Mayor Bivona would like to see more resources available for this initiative in the way of money and people; and this is a way of putting this together. At this point this is in the beginning planning stages; and the

Mayor asked the Board of Health for their support and involvement in the fight against drug abuse. The steering committee will be under the Municipal Alliance and include the Wellness Committee, Library, Schools and Police Department. The education and communication to the public regarding this epidemic need to be a major part of this initiative. The Mayor stated that the Sigma Free Initiative is directly connected to the Municipal Focus on Drug Abuse initiative.

Mr. Henry Wasserstein of the Municipal Alliance recommended that adult education is needed. Mr. Wasserstein explained that the schools are doing an excellent job reaching the children, but the adult education and attendance at the programs is lacking.

Dr. Nancy Mangieri of the Bergen County Health Department recommended that we need to attract people with an incentive. For example, there was a wellness event at Giant Stadium that attracted people not because of the wellness fair; but rather it was exciting to run on the field and meet the athletes. This drew the crowd to the event and also exposed them to something they would never have heard had they not attended. Dr. Mangieri said that health fairs are becoming less and less attended and there needs to be a creative challenge in finding a venue to bring people in. If there is a tragedy in town that is the time to have an organized program available to seize and capture the crowd.

Dr. Mangieri expressed to the group that the Bergen County Health Department has resources, content experts and ideas to support this initiative. Dr. Mangieri stated that she will work with the Board of Health and have all the members trained and certified so they will understand their role. She will also have the local Board of Health groups connected so they can get ideas from one another. This is about wellness and making people whole again, not drug abuse. If we look at it not as a disease but as a solution, we can be much more successful and the stigma begins to go away. Dr. Mangieri stated that people need to be able to reach out in a loving community and get the resources they need; and Bergen County Health Department can supply that.

Susan Boggia, Bergen County Office of Alcohol and Drug Dependency spoke about the services they offer. This is a health issue not a moral issue she stated. The best way to reach young people is through other young people speaking to them about their experiences. The County can help the Borough of Franklin Lakes get speakers in the middle school and high schools free of charge. There is a grant that can be moved forward for programs; such as, a program Hiding in Plain Sight. The audience will be educated on where children hide drugs. Stigma Free initiative comes under this office. The County has funding for treatment at no cost to Bergen County residents. Ms. Boggia will provide a list of the services and contact numbers. The website would be the perfect location for this information to be posted.

Marla Klein discussed the risk factors of drug abuse which are the same as all any other type of chronic disease. Stress related pressures lead to mental health and drug abuse issues. Also, Franklin Lakes has a 65+ population that needs to be reached to prevent over medicating and depression. The important factors for a community are that there is a place for people to be connected to the public; for example the public library. Also, that it is a faith community with houses of worship. Adults available in the community for the youth to reach out to or use as role models. Family time with exercise and/or meals together is beneficial. Also a drug free social

setting is highly recommended; for example, coffee houses in resident home. This would provide a place for the young people to socialize.

After a lengthy discussion, the consensus of the Board was to make an effort to communicate to the public on the subject of drug abuse; and encourage prevention through education.

**Open the Time for Public Comment:**

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

**Adjournment:**

On a motion by Mrs. Fuhr, seconded by Mrs. Voellmicke, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Yarish  
Secretary/Registrar, Board of Health