

TOWN OF BOONTON BOARD OF HEALTH
100 WASHINGTON STREET
BOONTON, NEW JERSEY 07005

MINUTES
May 16, 2023 at 7:30pm

CALL TO ORDER:

In the absence of the Board's President and Vice President, the Health Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. She called for a motion to nominate and elect a Chairman Pro Tem (temporary presiding officer for the meeting).

Ms. Harpell-Elam moved and Ms. Ferguson seconded a motion to elect Grace Ryerson as Chairman Pro Tem. All were in favor and the motion carried.

FLAG SALUTE:

Ms. Ryerson led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

Ms. Ryerson read the following announcement: Proper notice of this meeting was given to the Citizen of Morris County, the Daily Record, and posted on the bulletin board in Town Hall.

NOTICE: The New Robert's Rules of Order are in effect to conduct business.

ROLL CALL:

The Health Clerk conducted roll call.

THOSE PRESENT:

Members: Grace Ryerson, Cathy Riccobono, Christine Ferguson, Juli Harpell-Elam

Others present: Health Clerk Debra Garbeil, Health Officer Tom Cantisano, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Antonio Intili, Town Council Liaison Joe Bock

THOSE ABSENT:

Dr. Patrick DeMare, Bill Wallace, Kelli Shiels

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the meeting of April 18, 2023. All were in favor and the motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

Vital Statistics Report for April 2023

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Vital Statistics Report for April of 2023. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Animal Control Report for April 2023

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Animal Control Report for April of 2023. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Health Officer's Report

Mr. Cantisano introduced Antonio ‘Nino’ Intili who has been assigned to be the primary health inspector for Boonton. He is familiarizing himself with the town (Boonton) and is particularly working with the older businesses. He is giving them extra time to ‘get to code’ as to not financially burden the business owner, unless there is an imminent health risk.

Mr. Cantisano also shared that the nurses met with the schools to introduce themselves and become more familiar with Boonton.

Mr. Cantisano discussed the quarterly newsletter that he had recently distributed. He stated that on May 5, 2023 the World Health Organization called an end to the COVID pandemic. He discussed how low current COVID levels are however, he stated that it will be with us forever.

Ms. Ryerson stated that she wanted a newsletter years ago and asked Ms. Garbeil to ensure that Mr. Cantisano’s newsletter is distributed to the Board Members.

Ms. Ryerson and Ms. Riccobono raised their concern for residents having access to public health nurses, vaccinations and health seminars since they are now performed in Pompton Plains.

Ms. Riccobono raised particular concern about residents having transportation access to Pompton Plains.

Mr. Cantisano explained how attendance at local municipal health clinics has declined and how they are no longer an effective way to spend already limited resources.

Ms. Harpell-Elam asked about discrepancies in the fee ordinance.

Mr. Cantisano said that he is working on this and hopes that the first reading of the changes will take place in the Fall followed by the second reading, with the adoption of changes occurring by the end of the year.

Ms. Ryerson asked about the status of a pregnant woman who came into the Health Department at Boonton’s Town Hall for assistance with prenatal care.

Mr. Cantisano assured that his team followed-up.

Ms. Riccobono brought up the transportation issue in getting to Pompton Plains, referring to pregnant women and children in need of vaccinations.

Ms. Harpell-Elam offered that Hispanic Affairs may have transportation services that could help and raised the point that we may be able to engage the help of certain community organizations to help fulfill the needs of specific groups.

Mr. Cantisano stated that he is going to see if a partnership they have with Atlantic Health may be able to help with the transportation for children in need of vaccinations. He also stated that there are 6 clinics in Pompton Plains per year.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Health Officer's report. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Town Council Report

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

DISCUSSION:

None.

INVITATION TO CITIZENS TO DISCUSS ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

No members of the public were present.

INVITATION TO CITIZENS TO DISCUSS ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No members of the public were present.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was before the Board. Therefore, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:39 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Garbeil
Health Clerk