

**BOARD OF HEALTH
BOROUGH OF TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD MEETING, June 18, 2009**

The meeting of the Board of Health was held on the above-mentioned date. Dr. Daniel Feit read the Board's compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

On Roll Call the following members were present: Howard Bader, Dr. Hugh Evans, Dr. Daniel Feit, Dimitra Gebhard, Sharon Heissenbuttel and William Kuhns. Absent: Dr. Galit Sacajiu. Also present was: Sam Yanovich, Health Officer, Martha Rogalski, Registered Environmental Health Specialist, Grace Mays, Registrar, and Council Representative Patrick J. Rouse.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – The minutes from the March 19, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously. There were minutes of the April meeting due to no quorum.

NEW BUSINESS – none

OLD BUSINESS – Pat Rouse mentioned the March 19th minutes that stated Carol Roux from Recreation was interested in the position of deputy registrar. Grace did inform the administrator of her interest. The administrator was going to advise Grace of the results after the Mayor and Council meeting of the same week. At the last meeting the Board has concluded that the position of Deputy Registrar should be handled by the Administrator, Mayor and Council and Grace. Also, the Administrator should post the position internally. Grace did say that the Administrator did meet with Carol Roux. Dr. Evans and Dr. Feit asked has this been brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council and Pat Rouse said no. Pat will discuss with the Administrator.

Dr. Feit, felt that it is not Grace's position to fill the position that it is the Board of Health. There was a lot of discussion on this matter and Dr. Evans made a motion to give Grace the authorization to appoint Carol Roux to the position of deputy thus bring us in compliance with the State regulations. It was second by Howard Bader, all where in favor. There is no cost to the Borough for the course. All individual will be notified of the appointment if Carol Roux still poses an interest, if no the board presidents will be notified by email to decide what would be the next step.

Mr. Kuhns asked about the CPR Training Course that Pat was going to get some input on. Pat said that all personnel in the Ambulance Corp are certified to teach the course. Dr. Feit felt that a number of residents would benefit from this course i.e. babysitters etc. Pat has only check to see if the Ambulance Corp was willing and available. He will proceed further.

CORRESPONDENCE – N/A

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT – As of June 10, there have been 235 confirmed cases of H1N1/swine flu in the State. Twenty-six cases have been confirmed in Bergen County. Influenza is widespread at this time in the County, as well as the State. This flu may be either H1N1 or seasonal flu. The symptoms of both of these types of flu are similar. The New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services (NJDHSS) is no longer updating H1N1 influenza case counts on a daily basis, but rather on a weekly basis.

The World Health Organization (WHO) announced last week that they have changed the pandemic alert level to phase 6 (i.e. global pandemic) based on the geographic spread of the influenza virus, not on the severity of the illness. The CDC has stated that the disease continues to be a mild one for the most part, and there are no significant changes noted in the virus samples from other countries. The emphasis in the U.S. is to track what happens to H1N1 in the fall when traditional seasonal flu starts, and prepare to have a vaccine tested and ready to go should the science determine an immunization campaign is necessary.

At this time, only cultures for patients who are hospitalized are being sent for confirmation of H1N1 influenza to the State Public Health Lab (PHEL). Cultures from patients at physicians' offices are being sent to the commercial labs (i.e Labcorp and Quest), as these labs have begun to test for H1N1. Positive specimens from private labs are not being classified as "confirmed" cases, as a "confirmed" definition is designated only for specimens from PHEL due to the CDC validation process.

The local health departments have been in constant contact with schools, Boards of Education, medical offices, & parents, responding to all inquiries for guidance. Following CDC guidelines, the closure of schools is not recommended, since the large number of confirmed and/or probable cases is widespread, indicating spread within communities that makes school closure a less effective control measure. Most cases have not been severe, and the primary means to reduce the spread in schools is to focus on early identification of ill students, staying at home when influenza is suspected, and good cough and hand hygiene etiquette. Health departments have received new surveillance guidance for school-based clusters of influenza from the State as of June 12.

Decision about school closure is at the discretion of local authorities based on local considerations, including public concern, and the impact of school absenteeism and staffing shortages.

Bergen county LINCS team will be offering their Point of Distribution (POD) leadership I & II training program on June 19 at Paramus EMS training center. Individuals from municipalities who will manage a staff at a POD site, or will play a critical role at a POD should attend. Each municipality is invited to send 2-3 representatives.

PODs will be the means by which medications or vaccines will be distributed on a mass scale in the event of a bio-terror event, or some other public health emergency.

REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTOR – The reports for March, April and May were reviewed.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT – The reports for March, April, and May were reviewed.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE'S REPORT – N/A

VOUCHERS - All vouchers have been submitted and presented to the Council. All were approved and paid as listed. There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Grace E. Mays
Registrar/Administrative Assistant

MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN AT THE September 17, 2009.