

Meeting Minutes: Freehold Township Board of Health

March 10, 2016

Opening

1. Call to Order

The March 10, 2016, meeting of the Freehold Township Board of Health was called to order by Chairwoman Lemesevski at 6:30 PM. Board members present included: Ms. Allen, Mr. Ammiano, Dr. Apolito, Mr. Chudkowski, Dr. Opatut, Ms. Porth, Dr. Reilly, Mrs. Weissman, and Chairwoman Lemesevski. Also present: Margaret Jahn, Health Officer and Andrea Trozzi for Julie Kramer, Recording Secretary.

The following statement was read by Chairwoman Lemesevski: "In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, c.231, P.L. 1975, this meeting was announced by posting a notice on the bulletin board reserved for that purpose; by mailing such notice to the office of the official newspapers of the Township and by filing such notice with the Township Clerk."

Kayla Lamb a Monmouth University student was present at the meeting. Introductions were made by all.

2. Minute Approval – February 2016

A motion to approve the February minutes was offered by Mr. Ammiano, seconded by Mrs. Weissman and carried by the Board.

3. Activity Reports Approval

A motion to approve the February Activity reports was offered by Mrs. Weissman, seconded by Dr. Reilly and carried by the Board.

4. Correspondence

The VNA Health Group's Municipality's Statistic Report for 2015 was reviewed by the Board.

Discussion

5. Rabies Clinic

February 20, 2016 Rabies Clinic Report was reviewed. Dr. Reilly asked what percentage of animals are licensed in the town. Mrs. Jahn said the formula is 10% of the total population has dogs. Dr. Opatut stated that there are most likely more dogs than that would determine.

6. QI Presentation in Atlantic City

Update on the New Jersey Environmental Health Association's 2016 Annual Educational Conference and Exhibition. Freehold Area Health Department was asked to present to discuss strategies for

brainstorming ideas and consensus building. Maggie Karl and Andrea Trozzi presented at the “Raising the Bar in Environmental Health: Tools for Team Building and Driving Change in Your Organization” seminar. The presentation was well received.

7. Accreditation

“Chart Your Path to Public Health Department Accreditation” PHAB brochure was distributed to the Board Members. Discussion regarding the value of accreditation. Mrs. Jahn indicated that a number of Health Departments, including the New Jersey Department of Health, are moving forward and applying for accreditation. Dr. Reilly indicated that she spoke with individuals from the New Jersey Department of Health regarding its accreditation process – the work was intensive but well worth the effort. Ms. Allen asked what the tangible benefit of this accreditation would be. Mrs. Jahn said grant funding, increased shared services, and pride, among other benefits. The fee schedule for accreditation was discussed. Ms. Allen suggested marketing the return on investment of accreditation. Mr. Ammiano tasked Mrs. Jahn with gathering information regarding the positive aspects of investing money into the accreditation process.

8. Alliance Activities – Update

Mrs. Jahn updated the Board on the Alliance’s activities. There have been a number of well-received presentations. Another grant cycle is coming up. Evidenced-based programs are being presented in Freehold Township and Freehold Borough (Life Skills, Camp Fire). Mr. Ammiano stated that the recent presentation by Mr. Collier was great and should be given at the High School.

At this point, two items were added to the **Discussion** portion of this agenda.

9. Health Initiatives Grant- Update

Dr. Reilly and Mr. Ammiano updated the Board on the Grant. The Grant application was submitted in January with a letter of support from Freehold Township. Freehold Borough did not send a letter of support. It is a four-year, approximately \$250,000.00 Grant utilized to develop a blueprint for action focusing on Western Monmouth County. Mr. Ammiano and Dr. Reilly will be meeting with Freeholders Curley and Arnone to garner support. The grant monies are not used for a Federally-Qualified Health Center building. Mrs. Jahn indicated that the Freehold Borough Board of Health is on board with moving forward with the Health Initiatives Grant process.

10. Cat Colonies

Mrs. Jahn updated the Board on the animal control issue regarding the restriction of where to take stray cats. Rabies in stray cats is a threat and danger to the public. Presently, Juniper Plaza has a population of approximately 20 feral cats living at this location. At this time, there is no firm law in place that holds the owner of the property responsible for individuals feeding stray cats on said property. Mrs. Jahn asked for the Board’s support to move forward with drafting an ordinance that would hold the owner of the property responsible for the harboring of stray cats. Chairwoman Lemesevski asked if help removing the cats would be offered to the homeowner. Mrs. Jahn stated that it is the property owner’s responsibility

to move the cats. Dr. Opatut added that the ordinance must be clear as to what the responsibility of the homeowner is.

A Motion to have the Freehold Township Attorney create a draft ordinance regarding property owner responsibility with respect to cat colonies was offered by Mr. Ammiano, seconded by Dr. Reilly.

Roll Call Vote on this Motion:

Mrs. Allen	Yes
Mr. Ammiano	Yes
Dr. Apolito	Yes
Mr. Chudkowski	Yes
Dr. Opatut	Yes
Ms. Porth	Yes
Dr. Reilly	Yes
Mrs. Weissman	Yes
Chairwoman Lemesevski	Yes

Closing

With no further business to discuss and no public comment, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM was made by Mr. Ammiano, seconded by Dr. Apolito and carried by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Trozzi for
Julie Kramer
Recording Secretary