



380 Hillsdale Avenue
Hillsdale, New Jersey 07642
201-666-4800 (main)
201-497-1552 (direct)

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

President Opens Meeting:

This is a regular meeting of the Hillsdale Board of Health on this 21st day of February, 2023 which is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and associated regulations. In February 2023 notice of the time and place of this meeting had been provided to the Ridgewood News; a copy was posted on the bulletin board outside of this meeting room and on the Borough website; and was made available in Borough Hall and provided to any interested parties. A copy of the agenda for this meeting was available for review on the Borough's website.

Please silence all cell phones. Please wait to be recognized by the by the President during the Public Hearing and Public Comment part of the meeting. You will need to state your name and town of residence for the record.

Roll Call:

Roll was called by Chris Looes.

Chris Looes - present
Louisa Toledo, APN - absent
Elaine Meyerson, LSW - present
Diane Ohme, RN - present
John Klein - present
Dr. Susan Kushner - present
Christina Fanelli, RN - present
Namitha Reddy from NWBRHC - present
Marguerite Deppert, RN - present
Lois Kohan, RN - present
Councilman Justin Fox - absent

Call for Additional Agenda items:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting January 17th, 2022

Motion to receipt and file: Elaine Meyerson **Seconded by:** Diane Ohme
Approved Unanimously

ReOrg Meeting January 17th, 2023

Motion to receipt and file: Diane Ohme **Seconded by:** Dr. Susan Kushner
Approved Unanimously

President's Message / Report:



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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

President Chris Looes welcomed the board.

Correspondence:

No correspondence received

Health Officer and Employee Reports:

Health Officers Activities – January 2023

Namitha Reddy, Health Officer from Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission reviewed the January 2023 Activity Report. Highlights include:

- Covid 19 Activity: Increased community level; high for healthcare settings. Omicron 1.5 is the predominant strain. Tamiflu can be requested via the state.
- 95 Covid reports for Hillsdale
- Influenza and Respiratory Surveillance – moderate statewide
- Ebola Traveler monitoring: CDC has discontinued public health risk assessment at US ports of entry and has removed its Travel Health Notice for Uganda.
- Vaccination Data Brief
 - Adult: Vaccination rates exceeded Healthy People 2020 target for flu in ages 65+ but remained below both nationally and statewide.
 - Adolescent: Vaccination rates are similar to national average for Tdap and above average for men for CWWY and Flue during 2021-22 fluseason.
- Case close out for 2022
 - NWBRHC is working with Marguerite to ensure all cases are closed out by end of March 2023 deadline.
 - Diane Ohme asked about adolescent vaccination rates. Are pediatricians encouraging adolescents/families to obtain vaccines? Dr. Kushner stated that required vaccines have better compliance rates. Parents are particularly hesitant regarding the HPV vaccine for various reasons. Health providers promote the benefits especially in its efficacy against certain cancers.
- Lead Exposure
 - State mapping tool available to public and health agencies. Phase 1 will look specifically at lead paint in housing.
 - Marguerite cited a child with high level of lead exposure discovered during routine testing in Hillsdale due to various contributing environmental factors.
- Mandated Establishment Testing
 - 12 performed; 10 satisfactory; 1 conditional; 1
- 0 Temp food licenses



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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

- 1 Approved Plan Review and Consultation
- Complaints
 - 1 – reported to FBI regarding store made tuna salad and referred to NWBRHC
 - No other complaints received regarding food-borne illness.
- Food Handler Class upcoming on 2/28/23 in Waldwick Public Library
- Health Education
 - 9 activities in January
- Grant Updates reviewed
 - Outreach to Mental Health; request to partner with organization for in-depth presentations at senior centers; schools.
 - Complaint re covid 19 – Local health care coordinator outreach. Marguerite was not notified. Namitha will follow up for additional details.
 - Food support to a resident – Marguerite not advised but may be part of the transition.
- Meetings & Webinars Attended, social media posts, administrative/miscellaneous and correspondence activities were reviewed.

Questions and discussion surrounding the NWBRHC report:

- Case counts – includes all cases reported, confirmed, probable and out of state.
- Not every case is investigated.
- Contact tracing workforce is being phased out – starting May 1st. There may be continuing investigating high risk cases.
- Referrals for fair housing. Any calls or complaints that come in are to the Fair Housing Counsel or appropriate agency.
- Schools/Daycares – Namitha to send the list of schools/daycare contacted to Marguerite.

BOH Activity Report

Report provided by Marguerite Deppert, RN, BSN. Highlights include:

- Child Health Conference held on 1/25/23: 7 children attended
- 75 cases of Covid which reflects pediatrics or elderly who went to their primary care provider.; 1 case of Hepatitis B.
- Meetings attended, client services provided and immunization audits were reviewed.
- 2023 Budget worksheet was reviewed with actual totals current through Nov 4, 2022.
- Board members asked questions regarding various line items. Contractual services includes NWBHRC, Pet Licensing as well as other professionals.

Nurse's reports - January 2023

Report provided by Lois Kohan, RN. Highlights include:

- Excerises classes held



380 Hillsdale Avenue
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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

- Home visits performed
- Webinars held
- Distribution of Covid 19 virtual programs, test kits, activities at Hillsdale House, and referrals to various agencies and services.
- Lois happily reported that Valentine's Day cards made by children at the Smith school for homebound residents were cheerfully received and appreciated by the residents.
- Lois also reported that an intern from Montclair State University is administering the Music Therapy class and it has been very rewarding for the attendees.

Financial: Report – January 2023

Report provided by Chris Looes. Highlight include:

- Child Health Conference: 2022 collections have been completed. Now working on 2023 collections.
- Administrative Fees: \$10942.00
- Pet Licenses/Fees: \$3063.60
- Vital Statistics: \$50.00

Motion to receipt and file: Dr Susan Kushner
All in Favor: Passed unanimously.

Seconded by: Christina Fanelli

Opening and Closing of Public Meeting:

No one from the public was in attendance.

Prior Business:

1. Municipal Alliance
High school is using peer leadership grants. Also trying to get funding to K-8 schools.
2. 2023 CHC Contracts
Previously discussed during Financial report
3. 2023 Restaurant Business licensing
Previously reviewed during the Health Commission Activity Report

New Business:

1. Salary ordinance Introduction: Ordinance NO.: 22-01

Chris Looes read the ordinance out loud to the Board.

Motion to receipt and file: John Klein

Seconded by: Diane Ohme



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BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

The vote was tabled.

Discussion:

- All salary ordinances now include a minimum and maximum salary.
- John Klein cited an issue with wording regarding the maximum compensation as it conveys that the compensation for the position offers the maximum amount. For example Deputy Registrar has a range of \$1224 to \$4000 which is the maximum.
- Several increases were also noted, for example Municipal Registrar stipend was \$700 and is now \$4000.
- Board members favor changing the wording to state that compensation is “no less than minimum \$ and no more than the maximum \$”. The board reviewed the ranges and will suggest ranges based on collective bargaining rates for 3 years and include the 2% yearly increase.
- Stipends should not specify a range.
- Members asked if the Board has the authority to implement these changes?
- Chris will follow up the Borough Administrator regarding the proposed changes.
- Marguerite will obtain the collective bargaining agreement from Denise and forward to Chris.
- Dr. Susan asked about the Board of Health secretary position. The Board of Health secretary position is no longer being pursued; however, Denise Kohan is assuming the responsibilities.

Other Business:

- Board members would like Denise to make 6 copies of materials to be distributed at the meeting. Reports should be funneled to Denise prior to the meeting.
- Community outreach for Heart Month in February was posted on the billboard.
- John Klein to provide an update regarding merchandise for events at the next meeting. Diane Ohme suggested acquiring reflector vests for volunteers. Perhaps they can be borrowed from the DPW.
- Elaine Meyerson asked about health education materials in other languages. Namitha will research services who translate public health material. John Klein will check with the health department in Fort Lee. Namitha will check with health officers in other towns and see if the state has resources.
- Lois Kohan asked the board if there is any interest in holding skin cancer screening events. The events were suspended during Covid. Dr. Martha Mazzo is interested in holding this again. May is skin cancer awareness month. Marguerite suggested that advanced notice is



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BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES

required in order for a successful turnout and suggested July at either the pool or town hall.

- John Klein suggested that a health fair should be incorporated with Hillsdale Day.
- Marguerite Deppert suggested that a mini health fair incorporating hearing, vision and skin cancer screening in May or the early fall would be feasible.
- Marguerite and Lois to discuss with Denise and bring back a proposal to the board.

Motion to adjourn: John Klein

Seconded by: Christina Fanelli, RN

Meeting adjourned: 9:02pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2023