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The regular/reorganization meeting of the Board of Health was held in the Board of Health Building on Thursday, January 9, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. Carl Seber called the meeting to order, and led the salute to the flag.

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, NJSA 10:4-1 ET. SEQ. ANNUAL NOTICE HAVING BEEN FORWARDED TO THE NEW JERSEY HERALD AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY NEWS LEADER AND DAILY RECORD AND POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD MAINTAINED IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICES.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Rob Bond, Thomas Forbes, Dennis Twyford, Mariano Gianni, James Vanderhoof, Melinda Estep and Liaison, Estelle Klein.

ABSENT: Catherine Cokelet.

NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT: Thomas Forbes nominated Rob Bond for President, seconded by Dennis Twyford. Roll call, all in favor.

NOMINATION FOR VICE PRESIDENT: Rob nominated Dennis Twyford, seconded by Gianni. Roll call, all in favor.

NOMINATION FOR SECRETARY: Rob nominated Thomas Forbes, seconded by Dennis. Roll call, all in favor.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF HEALTH ATTORNEY: Carl had two resumes. Eric Bernstein & Associates/Michael Kovacs and Peter J. King of Dorsey Fisher Associates. After a brief discussion, Melinda made a motion to appoint Eric Bernstein & Associates L.L.C, seconded by Dennis. Roll call, all in favor. Carl read Resolution # 1-2003 in its entirety, appointing Eric Bernstein & Associates L.L.C.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER: Carl read Resolution # 2-2003 in its entirety. Rob made a motion to accept the Resolution designating The Herald News as the official newspaper for the Board, with The News Leader as the second official newspaper for the Board, seconded by Thomas Forbes. Roll call, all in favor.

APPOINTMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE TEAM: Rob made a motion to appointment Dennis to the position. He then said he was not sure if it is a Mayor and Council appointment. If so the Board would like to change to Dennis Twyford. Melinda seconded the motion. Roll call, all in favor. Melinda said she would like to be considered for a liaison.

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES FOR YEAR 2003 THROUGH JANUARY 2004: Carl started by stating the meetings were changed to the second Thursday of each month to accommodate the Board members to appear before the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Jim made a motion to return to the second Wednesday of each month, seconded by Thomas. There was a brief discussion and changes were made. Jim amended the first motion to the fourth Wednesday, with the exception of November and December. Carl read Resolution # 3-2003 in its entirety. The motion was seconded by Gianni. Roll call, all in favor.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. Dennis had a question about item number three, a letter addressed to Mayor and Council. The letter was about the salaries of the two clerks in the Health Department. Carl said it is in the works and there is not much he can say now. Carl said he appreciates what the Board did in supporting the request. Jim made a motion to accept the December minutes, seconded by Dennis. All in favor.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC:

1. Estelle Klein talked about an ordinance that was brought up before the Council. Basically the town is looking to come up with a "certificate of compliance". When you go to sell your house, you pay a fee; someone comes in to inspect to see if you are in compliance with the zone that it is in. Also to see if permits have been taken out for whatever work has been done on it since the last reevaluation. Then there are penalties. How do you punish somebody, if the work was done five years ago and they have moved on? I will never vote for that. You cannot penalize somebody today for some bodies' crime yesterday.

2. Estelle also said, as a point of reference for Gianni and Melinda, this is an autonomous board. There are not many autonomous boards around. Anything you do that goes back to the people of Hopatcong, I would like to see you treat them fairly, not burden them with unnecessary expenses or anything. Dennis added that since he has been on the Board, the Board has focused on those particular items and concerns.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT/YEAR END:

1. Rob asked about the search for an Animal Control Officer. Carl said the decision is for the Mayor and Council to make. Until I get their OK, I am on hold. We have a part time individual, it is slow right now but in the spring, the animals are out and about. Hopefully by the next meeting, we will have a full time person on board.
2. Rob talked about the discussion with SCAT(Sussex County Communities Against Tobacco). Carl said he contacted Sheila Risley, she was happy to find out that two retail food establishments had gone smoke free. She will recognize them and any money that we outlay here, they will reimburse us. She would like copies of the resolutions that were approved.
3. Jim asked about the fuel oil on Central Ave. Carl said it was a hand dug well in a small basement area with a piece of slate on it. You can smell the oil as soon as you got near. There was about twenty inches of fuel oil on it. It was a return line that leaked into her well. The people next door are on town water and let her hook in with a double female end hose. Estelle asked how much is going to cost these people. Carl said if they extend the line, about three thousand dollars. These people cannot get reimbursed from the program because they caused their own problem. If you pollute your own well, you better have your own insurance and he didn't.
4. Rob asked about the Small Pox Vaccine. Carl said the 28th of January they would be attending a tabletop practice session with the County. Right now they are trying to vaccinate the vaccinators. No one can administer the vaccine unless they are vaccinated.
Carl said they are producing more vaccines. They want to produce three hundred million. They want every individual afforded a vaccine.
5. Rob asked about the Year End report. Carl pointed out that septic alterations and water samples were up because of home sales.

SANITARY REPORT

BOROUGH NURSE REPORT

REGISTRAR REPORT

ANIMAL CONTROL: *Hopatcong/Stanhope*

ALL REPORTS: James made a motion to accept all reports, seconded by Thomas. All in favor.

SWAT:

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Carl had a booklet on Sexually Transmitted Diseases. It was passed it around the table.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Carl talked about the existing Animal Ordinance, Section 248-12 that says if we pick up a stray, the law says that you have to keep them a minimum of seven days before we euthanize it. We would like to change that seven days to thirty days. It does not mean that we can't adopt it out or keep it longer, but the minimum would be thirty days. Carl also said the word **chronic** offender, in the last change; when talking about a summons, he had a problem with that word. We would be painting ourselves into a corner. We will leave that to the discretion of the ACO or Health Officer. Dennis said if there is a perceived problem with the new Health Officer, he will still have to deal with this Board to a large degree. If a problem should arise we will still be able to adjust that. This is a safety measure.
Carl asked the Board to make a motion; we will send this off to our new attorney to put in ordinance form, to be introduced at first reading next month. Dennis made a motion, seconded by Gianni. Roll call, all in favor.
2. Carl told the Board that the Health Department had been audited for the immunization clinic. He wanted to read the comments that were sent to him. Overall the letter thanked the entire staff that was so helpful. Also congratulated the staff on a job well done. The letter was from the State Department of Health.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Carl told the Board about swans that died on Lake Hopatcong. There were about fifth-teen documented swans that died. Carl had Jill, part time ACO, take two swans to be tested through the State. This is a hemarogic disease that comes from eating infected snails. It has been a problem in Lake Musconetcong in years past. They must have been migrating; all of a sudden we were inundated with them. Estelle asked what they can do in Musconetcong to correct it. Carl said he did not get to deep into it. Melinda suggested that someone contact the Environmental Commission. This is something that is up their alley. Rob said the Environmental Commission could talk to everyone including Jefferson. If it is in Musconetcong, what is there to prevent the same thing from happening here?

Jim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Melinda. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie Mitchell

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