

Town of Dover
Board of Health, October 19, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Dover Board of Health was held in Town Hall, 37 N. Sussex Street, Dover.

Board President Marie Hoffman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting complies with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly advertised and posted.

Secretary Donna Cook called roll.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Marie Hoffman, Irene Hansen, Donna Cook,
Constance Sibona-Foster, Sandra Scarneo,
Christopher Chapman

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Carolyn Blackman, Alderman
Donald Costanzo, Health Officer

President Marie Hoffman welcomed Donna Cook back to the board and called for a motion to accept the minutes from the September, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Health.

A motion to accept the minutes from the September 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was made by Donna Cook, and duly seconded by Sandra Scarneo.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Letter from NJDHSS to the HO dated 9/14/09; re: grant availability for H1N1 vaccination campaign.
2. Letter from EarthRes Group to the HO dated 9/15/09; re: environmental clean-up at 46 Richboynton Road.

3. Letter from the Louis Berger Group, Inc. to the HO dated 9/22/09; re: site remediation.
4. Letter from Saint Clare's Hospital to the HO dated 10/12/09; re: per-diem nurse agreement for H1N1 vaccinators.

President Marie Hoffman asked if there was any significant correspondence. The HO referenced the letter from the State of NJ regarding the availability of a grant to fund H1N1 vaccination activities and the agreement letter from St. Clare's regarding per diem nursing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Copies of the monthly report for September were distributed to the board for review.

The HO reported to the Board that the October 5th seasonal flu clinic for seniors was a success, as well as a flu clinic for the homeless at Trinity Lutheran Church on October 14th. Dover was very lucky to receive this vaccine and administer it early on. By doing so, confusion over H1N1 has been reduced.

The HO reported to the Board that planning and preparing for H1N1 vaccination programming has overshadowed all other health department activities and remains the greatest public health challenge in past 30 years.

The HO provided an update on H1N1 planning:

- The Dover Health Department was approved as a vaccine provider and ship-to site. The HO explained the significance of this capability; from physician requirements; refrigeration storage and monitoring to temperature monitoring.
- The HO explained the requirement to data entry and its implications.
- The HO explained the status of vaccine ordering and its uncertainty.
- The Dover Health Department received standing order to administer vaccinations for the County Medical Director.
- The Dover Health Department has met with school officials to plan and organize mass vaccination clinics from the High School. The HO summarized how clinics will be organized and the major role the school is playing.
- A tentative schedule of clinics has been set in November and again in December allowing for the 30 day time period and a second dose in those aged 10 years and younger.
- The HO summarized the current status of nurse vaccinators.

Connie Foster suggested that consideration be given to the issue of transportation for seniors as a part of influenza planning.

The HO gave the board an update on the status of Aracelis Orama, who is out on extended sick leave.

The administrator authorized funding for temporary help and Darlene Kasko, the former retired registrar, has returned to fill-in for Ms. Orama until she recovers.

NEW BUSINESS:

The HO announced that Christine Noriega resigned from the Board of Health effective October 19, 2009. A copy of Ms. Noriega's email was distributed to the board. The HO stated that he promptly informed the Administrator who will inform the Mayor.

The HO reported that he submitted a formal grant application to the NJDHSS for H1N1 in order to respond to the ongoing and emerging outbreaks of the novel Influenza A – H1N1 virus. The grant is for: \$65,102. The HO has received positive feedback and is awaiting a formal letter of approval.

Because the Dover Health Department is challenged by the need for per diem nurses that are paid for and limited by the above-mentioned grant, the HO has asked Saint Clare's Hospital to provide nursing services on an as-needed basis and subject to grant funding.

The HO presented the agreement to the Board. Following discussion a **motion to approve an agreement between the Board of Health and Saint Clare's Hospital for per diem nursing services on an as-needed basis** was made by Connie Foster and duly seconded by Marie Hoffman .

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

On Wednesday, October 21st, the Health Department will be conducting H1N1 vaccinations to first responders. The clinic will be held at the Dover Health Department nurse's office from 3 – 7 pm.

The Dover Health Department will also be conducting its annual food handler's class on Monday, November 9th.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WHO WISHED TO DISCUSS ANY PARTICULAR ISSUE.

The HO mentioned Connie Foster's advocacy of prescription drug abuse and a related upcoming program called "Operation Medicine Cabinet."

Connie Foster explained how the program came about through her work on the Municipal Alliance. She knew this type of program was possible after having seen other towns involved in similar prescription drug disposal programs on the web.

Operation Medicine Cabinet is being held on Saturday, November 14th, between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Residents can dispose of their expired or unused medicines by bringing them to the Dover Police Department. The program is sponsored by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and the Dover Police Department.

Irene Hansen asked the HO about the storage of recyclables. Particularly, she was interested in container requirements and rules about where they can be stored. The HO stated that he believed a recycling ordinance was passed specifying containers with lids but that it was under the purview of the Code Enforcement Department.

The board had a lengthy discussion on restaurant inspections and raised the issue of withholding a food license and/or temporarily closing an establishment for repeated violations of the sanitary code. The board requested the HO ask the Town Attorney for his opinion regarding this issue.

Sandra Scarneo asked for an update on Missionaries of God. The HO explained that earlier this month “Missionaries” was displaced from Hope House. If it is determined that Missionaries is illegally dispensing food from the back of a motor vehicle, they will be issued a notice of violation. Following formal notification, if the illegal activity continues, the matter will be taken to municipal court.

**THE MEETING WAS OPENED TO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC
WHO WISHED TO DISCUSS A PARTICULAR ISSUE.**

Judith Rugg, BSN, RN, Case Manager, for Homeside Hospice, was present and provided the board with an overview of Homeside Hospice.

Homeside Hospice is based in Clark, NJ at 67 Walnut Avenue, Suite 205, Clark, NJ. Their web site is: www.homesidehospice.com.

President Marie Hoffman thanked Ms. Rugg for her attendance.

Upon completion of the public portion of the meeting, President Marie Hoffman entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. **A motion to adjourn the meeting** was made by Sandra Scarneo and seconded by Irene Hansen.

ALL AYES; NO NAYS

MEETING ADJOURNED