

*MEETING OF THE MONTVALE BOARD OF HEALTH
CONFERENCE ROOM #1, 2nd floor/ZOOM
12 MERCEDES DRIVE
MONTVALE, NJ 07645*

Regularly Scheduled Meeting on Teleconference format
June 1, 2020

President Cohen called the meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:45pm. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided to *The Record* informing the public of the time and place, according to the Provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975). The Sunshine Law is in effect.

Roll Call

Members: J. Cohen, President (P), G. Clark (P) M. Danna, Vice- President (P), L. Hopper (A), J. Jacobson (P), J. Landzberg (P), & P. Lennon (P)

Non- Members: Council Liaison Koelling (A), & Secretary J. Russo (P) Mayor Ghassali (P)

Contracted Professionals: A. Musella, Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission Health Officer (P)
J. Wendolowski, Hackensack Meridian Health Public Health Nurse (P)
C.Tyler, Tyco Animal Control Officer (A)
Mayor Ghassali (P)

Due to the restrictions in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this is a virtual meeting on Zoom. The meeting information was posted on the website and the Sunshine Law is in effect. There was no one from the public.

President Cohen asked for a motion to approve the April minutes. M. Danna made a motion to approve the minutes & J. Jacobson seconded it. The minutes were approved on a roll call vote. The minutes will be posted on Borough website.

It was announced that Angela Mussela, Health Officer extraordinaire, was retiring at the end of June. Flowers were sent on behalf of the Board and many expressed sorrow at this resignation in light of the superb job that Angela has done on behalf of the Borough. She will be missed!!

President Cohen suspended from our regular agenda in order for J. Wendolowski, Public Health Nurse to provide an update on COVID-19. The end of day numbers of positive/ negative tests results and deaths in Montvale are provided to the Mayor and President Cohen each day. The Mayor provides updates to the residents via the Borough website. Residents are reminded that numbers are subject to errors as hospitalizations are often not included or electronically available. If one family member had tested positive, the remaining household members are assumed positive and must quarantine. Available numbers often do not reflect this.

Gov. Murphy announced that NJ will be entering phase 2 and provide a list of restrictions in place that will be lessened. Child care facilities will be opening with restrictions and guidelines. There was an open discussion regarding what type of attendance can be expected. Outdoor dining was discussed.

President Cohen stated that, earlier in the pandemic, when child care facilities were operating, she was notified that social distancing with the children at a facility was not in practice. Police Chief was contacted and an officer was sent and the situation was corrected.

Contact tracing was discussed. The government will be hiring college students to conduct surveys by phone. President Cohen stated the tracer could be required to complete a short online course followed by a test in some jurisdictions. There is limited information that is available. A. Musella discussed how public health has been underserved and underfunded for years.

President Cohen announced that the Board has received a fully executed contract from Meridian Health of Hackensack University Medical Center. The Board noted that the contract was due in February and had been requested several times.

It was announced that Montvale police officers visited few establishments in the Borough to remind the owners to enforce social distancing with the patrons.

President Cohen discussed that the Board of Health would like to be notified of any new health-related facilities that wish to operate in Montvale. A mobile unit providing intravenous therapy (IV) to residents was not presented. She sent a letter to the Planning Board requesting that all health-related information should be passed on.

J. Wendolowski reported in January information regarding immunizations in schools and day care facilities was in the process of being submitted. Due to the Gov. Murphy order to close schools, the deadline for submission has been extended.

Mayor Ghassali reported that he is waiting for reopening of restaurants and exploring the possibility of organizing a restaurant week. Gov. Murphy will be issuing guidelines soon. Mayor Ghassali will contact President Cohen regarding the opening of restaurants and the possibility of Montvale hosting restaurant week.

A Musella addressed health complaints, unless extremely serious, are not being handled due to COVID-19 effecting the work load. She announced that all seasonal flu clinic for communities served are cancelled due to uncertainty of the presence of COVID-19. This information will be posted on the website and in the newsletter starting July to September. The Board of Health encourages eligible residents to obtain the vaccine from their physicians or at their pharmacy. The Senior Center will also provide.

The Borough's website continues to provide updates of information and it is recommended that residents only visit credible websites such as NJ Health and Center for Disease Control (CDC) to stay informed.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2. Members will be contacted by email with details.

Monthly Reports

Tyco Animal Report - M. Danna.

NW Bergen Reg. Health Commission Activity Reports for March & April were emailed to members and items discussed.

Registrar & Vital Static Report- M. Danna.

Food & Retail Establishments Report- M.Danna.

Child Health Conference Report- No report

Council Liaison Report- No report

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 8:55 pm was made by J.Landzberg & second by M. Danna. All in favor. Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on September 8 (Tuesday). Members are reminded to check their emails as it gets closer to the meeting date for meeting information.