



Princeton Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2014



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The regular monthly meeting of the Princeton Board of Health convened at 7:30 PM at Princeton Borough Hall-East Conference Room.

Dr. Rojer Called the meeting to order

Members Present: Dr. Charles Rojer, Steven Miller, PHD, MS, JoAnn Hill, RN, Dr. George DiFerdinando, Dr. Laura Kahn and Janet Heroux, MBA, MHS

Also Present: Jeffrey Grosser, Health Officer

Alternates: Linda Steiner-Sichel, RN, MPH Alt. 1, and Lauren Babcock-Dunning, MPH, Alt.2

Liaisons: Heather Howard, J.D. Town Council

Liaisons: Elizabeth Bidwell-Bates, Princeton Human Services Commission

Member absent: Rick Weiss, MS

Visitors: Guest Speaker(s) Mr. Robert Kiser, PE Municipal Engineer, Mr. Jack West, Land Use Engineer

Residents: Ms. Linda Auerbach and Mr. Paul Driscoll

Public Comment:

Dr. Rojer introduced Mr. Kiser and Mr. West as guest speakers for the May Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Kiser gave a report of the work being done at the hospital site. He briefed the board on the productive communication Princeton Engineering, Planning, Construction and Health Departments have had with respect to the hospital site. Said departments are visiting the site frequently to verify the job is being performed properly. Mr. Kiser mentioned a neighborhood meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2014 at the 400 Witherspoon building at 7:00 p.m. to give an update to residents on the progress of the site.

Mr. Grosser explained the role of the Health Department in the hospital site project.

Mr. West also gave a review on the handling of the all the materials to be removed from the site, a fence has been installed around the site.

Ms. Auerbach mentioned that it was brought to her attention hospital site workers were made to sign a document releasing the employer of any damages to the workers.

Mr. Driscoll stated that he was also concerned for the health of the nearby community and the health of the workers.

Mr. Grosser noted that having various Princeton departments involved with this project gives comprehensive protection and oversight to the town. He also stated that they will continue to monitor the site and give the town regular updates.

Minutes – April 15, 2014

A motion to approve the April 15, 2014 minutes was made by Ms. Hill and seconded by Mr. Miller.

Monthly Reports

Mr. Grosser gave a review on the monthly inspectors report.

Mr. Grosser mentioned that the inaugural truck-fest at Princeton University was a big success. Keith Levine performed 11 inspections of food trucks. All satisfactory ratings and compliance with food vendors.

The investigation of the unsafe living conditions at the Lytle street location was resolved by the Housing Safety / Fire Safety Office. The bed bug issue was resolved by a licensed pesticide applicator.

Mr. Grosser and Ms. Neira, Executive Director, Human Services, attended a meeting with the Children's Home Society coordinator to discuss increasing the enrollment of new families in the WIC program and the possibility of keeping the WIC clinic open in Princeton. The meeting concluded with the Children's Home Society agreeing to continue WIC clinics in Princeton for the remainder of 2014. Mr. Grosser noted that the group will meet in late summer/early fall to discuss plans for 2015. Mr. Grosser has invited Ms. Neira to the June meeting to give the Board members a wider view of the WIC program and Human Services.

Mr. Grosser attended the Student Health Advisory Board (SHAB) meeting at Princeton University. A key concern of the board was smoking on campus Mr. Grosser suggested that NJ GASP (Global Advisors on Smoke free Policy) should be contacted and, signage on the campus should be considered.

The Student Health Advisory Board would like to continue having a permanent representative present at Board of Health Meetings.

Mr. Grosser mentioned a meningitis case at University of Hartford that had initial ties to the Princeton outbreak. It was later discovered the Serogroup was different and unrelated to the Princeton Outbreak.

Dr. Kahn explained the 3 cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) that occurred in the United States and the suspected origin.

Mr. Grosser indicated he would be attending a meeting at the University Medical Center of Princeton at Plainsboro to discuss preparing for possible cases of MERS-CoV.

Old Business:

Mr. Grosser noted he is aware the health department website is an area in need of updating and improvement. Mr. Grosser has been invited to be part of the IT Strategic Steering Committee. The Committee is focusing on implementing the recent IT Strategic Plan and prioritizing priority level goals. Mr. Grosser noted that improving the Princeton website is on the list of priorities and he will be informing the committee of this need.

Grant Opportunities:

Mr. Grosser asked to be informed of any available grant opportunities that members learn of.

Report from Committees

Mr. Miller gave a brief report from the Environmental Committee.

Ms. Steiner-Sichel gave a report of the Drug and Alcohol Committee. Police performed Annual *Cops in Shops* program and some arrests were made.

Ms. Steiner-Sichel mentioned she attended a speaking engagement that mentioned that the cigarette use is on the decline and marijuana use is on the rise. Also, the drug of choice for 8-12 year olds is marijuana and E-Cigarettes. A new product called, Blue Blossom, has also raised concerns because poisoning related from this product has increased 20%.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.