

**Princeton Board of Health**  
Monthly Meeting  
**October 20th, 2015**  
Monument Hall - East Meeting Room  
One Monument Drive, Princeton, NJ 08540

**Present:**

**Board Members**

George DiFerdinando, M.D  
Laura Kahn, MD  
Steven Miller, PhD  
Charles Rojer, M.D., Chairman  
Linda Schwimmer, Esq  
Linda Steiner-Sichel. MPH

**Staff:**

Jeffrey Grosser MHS, HO  
Michael Soto

**Guests:**

Elizabeth Bates, HSC  
Members of Boy scouts Troop 43

**Absent:**

Lauren Babcock Dunning, MPH  
JoAnn Hill, RN  
Heather Howard, Council  
Rick Weiss, MS

**I. Call to Order**

At 7:33PM, Chairman Rojer called the meeting to order by affirming: "This meeting of the Princeton Board of Health has been duly advertised and is being conducted in compliance with all provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act."

**II. Public Comment and Guests**

There were members from Boy scouts Troop 43 earning their merit badge for Citizenship in the Community.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 15th, 2015**

Ms. Schwimmer moved to approve the minutes, and was seconded by Ms. Sichel.

**IV. Monthly Reports**

**Animal Control Officer's Report**

In September 4 animals were tested for rabies, none were found positive. There are still zero positive specimens to date in Princeton.

In Mercer County there have been 14 positive cases and 236 in New Jersey to date. This is less than the 270 reported by the same time last year.

There were 2 animal cruelty issues: the first case was a dog that attacked another, and a second case was a dog was left locked inside a car while it was 100 degrees outside.

There was a discussion regarding licensing cats and requiring vaccines. Mr. Grosser noted that cat complaints in the municipality will be looked into regarding their vaccination status and whether or not they are running at large.

### **Health Officer's Report**

#### a. Flu Clinics

Last week was the joint flu clinic with the senior health fair at the Princeton Senior Resource Center. We had 326 flu shots, 60 Prevnar and 11 TDaP shots. Over 700 participants walked through to get educational materials.

We will be exploring possibilities of utilizing this space for mass vaccination clinics, partnering with the Office for Emergency Management.

Flu shots will also be provided to food workers at the Food Safety Clinic, there are already 50 attendees RSVP'd.

The next flu clinic will be held on Halloween during the fall rabies clinic.

#### b. Rabies Clinic

A rabies clinic will be held at the Witherspoon Firehouse, 9am-12pm on Halloween.

#### c. Capital Budgets

The Health Department requested a new vehicle for Animal Control (valued at \$65k outfitted with a deer lift gate) to replace the old one.

The Health Department is conducting research on digital inspection software. The IT department is being consulted on the research.

#### d. Greater Mercer Health Partnership focus groups

Mr. Grosser and Mr. DiFerdinando will be attending focus groups in Ewing and Hamilton next week for the ongoing planning of the Community Health Improvement Plan.

e. Remediation Plan for former Hospital Site

Mr. Grosser met with the Engineering Department to review the site remediation plan for the former hospital site to remove the contaminated soil. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection has received the remediation work plan from Avalon Bay and EcolSciences describing in detail how the soil will be capped on site. Due to contaminant levels exceeding State soil remediation standards, a site remediation plan has been completed by the Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP). To reduce environmental health hazards in the area, the contaminated soil will remain covered and the site will continue to be wet down until the soil is completely removed from the site.

f. Reducing Gun Violence

The Board discussed legislation from other states regarding conceal carry permits and background checks

The problem is there is no follow-up, no additional safety training and it is easy to purchase out of state where surrounding laws are not always as stringent.

Mr. Grosser shared an article by the Prevention Institute highlighting current research.

Ms. Sichel suggested checking with Princeton University what they are doing. Mr. DiFerdinando added that there may be an opportunity for cross-learning between schools, churches, universities and police. Ms. Bates mentioned that Chief Sutter has been meeting with the Superintendent, specifically for the ongoing SWATTING incidents. Mr. Grosser will invite Chief Sutter or Police Department representative to a subsequent meeting to discuss what the police are doing on this topic.

Ms. Schwimmer suggested that the board focus on the role of mental health, especially considering suicide rates. While mass shootings get the headlines, suicides are larger numbers.

g. Sanitary Code Draft

The Sanitary Code has not been updated since 2012. Mr. Grosser distributed a draft and requested comments from the board, including additions to the quarantine and isolation observation code and concrete/paver cutting ordinances. The Board will aim at the first reading of this ordinance in the next few months.

h. PEC Meeting

Mr. Miller suggested there should be an ordinance in place regarding fracking. He made a motion that Ed Lloyd from the Eastern Environmental Law Center (EELC) look at the ordinance. Mr. Rojer seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed.

Mr. Miller also mentioned that Roundup has been classified as a probable carcinogen. Mr. Miller will be checking with the Superintendent of Department of Public Works to see if they are using it. Mr. DiFerdinando highlights the need to approach the issue from an Integrated Pest Management perspective.

i. 2015 Review

Mayor Lempert has requested that the board present a written report of what has accomplished in 2015 and that it hopes to accomplish during the upcoming year.

j. Conversation of a Lifetime event

Dr. Volandes is coming to Princeton to speak at the Public Library. He is also a physician at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and a professor at Harvard Medical School. His work focuses on empowering patients and families in the health care system with respect to end of life planning

**V. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Kahn motioned to adjourn and Ms. Schwimmer seconded. All present voted in favor of this action and the meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted, Michael Soto