

**Princeton Board of Health
Minutes
February 19, 2013**

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

Members Present: Dr. George DiFerdinando, JoAnn Hill, RN, Dr. Laura Kahn
Dr. Charles Rojer and Bruce Topolosky

Alternates: Steven Miller # 1 arrived at 8:00p.m and Linda Steiner-Sichel # 2

Liaisons: Heather Howard

Also Present: Dave Henry, Health Officer,

Councilman: Simon

Member absent: Robert Ciotta, PhD and Rick Weiss

Visitors: Pam Hersh, Vice President Community Affairs, Princeton Medical Center at Plainsboro.

Elizabeth Bidwell-Bates, Princeton Human Services Commission.

Minutes – January 15, 2013

A motion to approve the January 15, 2013 reorganization meeting minutes was made by Dr. Rojer and seconded by Dr. DiFerdinando.

A motion to approve the January 15, 2013 regular meeting minutes was made by Dr. Rojer and seconded by Dr. DiFerdinando.

HEALTH OFFICER’S MONTHLY REPORT – Jan/Feb 2013

Mr. Henry gave a brief review of the meeting he attended he mentioned he was re-elected President of the Mercer County Health Officers Association.

Mr. Henry met with the State Health Department to discuss the future of Sexually Transmitted Disease Services in NJ. One of the things discussed was possible grant availability.

Mr. Henry and Dr. DiFerdinando attended the NJ Association of City and County Health Officials meeting. The Commissioner of Health spoke. Dr. DiFerdinando represented the Board of Health.

Mr. Henry participated in a meeting held by the NJ Prevention Network. The Health Department is participating in environmental scan of policies and health disparities in Mercer County.

Mr. Henry explained that this time work is being done on Grants to look at environmental scans for Mercer County. The health department is working with four interns from Rutgers and with other municipalities.

Mr. Henry reported that the department is working closely with Princeton University regarding the Norovirus outbreak.

Dr. Rojer congratulated Mr. Henry on being re-elected President of the Mercer County Health Officers Association.

Health Inspectors January 2013 Monthly Report:

Dr. Kahn enquired as to what type of animal specimen was sent to the lab for testing.

Mr. Henry indicated that it was a Silver Nose Bat and the results were negative.

After more discussions on the report a motion was made by Dr. Rojer and seconded by Ms. Hill this carried on a voice call vote: Ayes (7) Nays (0)

Ms. Howard introduced Councilman Simon

Mr. Henry gave an overview on the various aspects of service during and after hurricane Sandy.

Ms. Hersh indicated that shelters should have been identified before the event, and thought that these shelters should have emergency generators and should be designated as shelters. The Hospital emergency room was used by residents as a shelter for such things as charging their phones, also the elderly that came to the Hospital for fear of not being able to keep their appointments.

Ms. Howard indicated that a warming center was available in Princeton this center was not designated before the storm.

Dr. Kahn indicated that given the global climate changes the Township should be more prepared since these events are happening more often. It is important to be better prepared, thought should be given to burying the power lines to alleviate the loss of power.

Mr. Topolosky indicated that this was a subject that has been discussed for the last seven years and it is time for something to be done.

Ms. Bidwell-Bates reminded the Board that many of the elderly are not electronically equipped and plans should be made for them as well.

Mr. Topolosky asked Councilman Simon with the new task force in place what are the steps be taken and when.

Councilman Simon indicated the group met to outline the scope of communications, warming centers, roads and public health at this time nothing has been decided.

Councilman Simon invited any member with suggestions he would welcome them.

Mr. Henry also indicated that a memorandum of understanding with a vendor for such things as water.

Old Business

Board & Commissions Handbook:

After more discussions on the report, a motion made by Dr. Rojer to accept the new handbook and was seconded by Dr. DiFerdinando this carried on a voice call vote:

Ayes (7) Nays (0)

Consolidation Update:

Consolidation is ongoing.

Greater Mercer County Health Improvement Plan:

Mr. Henry gave a brief report on the areas that need to be improved in the area.

Mr. Henry indicated that Ms. Bidwell-Bates and Dr. DiFerdinando are working together on this process.

Safe Playing Fields

New Business / Members Comments

Public Areas Smoking Ban after some discussion the first reading was approved on a motion made by Dr. Kahn that was seconded by Ms. Hill

Reports from Committees

Budget and Finance

Personnel

The above committees had no reports at this time.

Planning

Dr. DiFerdinando and Dr. Rojer are working with the State Department.

Reports from Other Boards and Commissions

Environmental Commission

Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance

The above committees had no reports at this time.

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