

BOUND BROOK BOARD OF HEALTH
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2017
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President A. Torregroza at 6:00 P.M. with the following statement:

“This meeting held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the Law have been met by the Meeting Notice being forwarded to the Courier News and posted in the Municipal Building on January 4, 2017.”

ROLL CALL:

The following members were present: Helen Goodrich, Barbara Lobman, Angela Robinson, Lisa Slater, and Alberto Torregroza.

The following were also present: Kevin G. Sumner, Health Officer.

PUBLIC SESSION:

No public was present. Public portion of meeting closed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A. Robinson moved for acceptance of the minutes of the September 14, Motion seconded by B. Lobman. All in favor.

COMMISSION:

- A. Commission Update – K. Sumner reported that the Commission has approved a budget for 2018 and the impact on Bound Brook will be explained in the Budget portion of the agenda. The Commission also discussed the issue of gun violence and tobacco control as potential future areas of action. The Commission decided that they would review any pending gun control/violence legislation and consider taking a position. Regarding tobacco control the Commission has asked the Health Officer to approach some proactive health departments about collaborating on simultaneous adoption of ordinances to control the sale of tobacco products by healthcare related businesses, especially pharmacies.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Culture of Health – K. Sumner advised the Board that the grant activities are moving forward with regular meetings of the leadership team and action teams to address the priority areas identified in the Blueprint. The Commission participates on the leadership team on behalf of the Borough and South Bound Brook and the Health Officer leads the Resource Action Team. This team is

currently in an information gathering stage and has contracted with a graduate student to do the fieldwork. She is gathering information on local resources that will eventually be converted into a web and phone based application.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Activities Reports for September and October – Board members reviewed the monthly reports and discussed the following items:
 - a. Members asked about the food truck festival. K. Sumner reported there were approximately ten vendors approved for the festival. Most had been previously inspected by the Commission and a couple late arrivals we were able to verify had recently been inspected by other local health departments. No problems were reported.
 - b. Members discussed permanent tattooing and microblading. K. Sumner explained that these are all procedures that are subject to state regulations that are enforced by the local health department. Specific review and inspection procedures are in place and the only time a place is exempt is if it is conducted in a medical office.
- B. Rabies Clinic - Members asked about upcoming rabies clinics. K. Sumner reported that two clinics were offered in South Bound Brook and Green Brook on November 4 and two more clinics will be offered in Watchung and Bound Brook on December 2. For additional options, members were referred to Bridgewater Health Department as another possible location.
- C. 2018 Budget - K. Sumner explained that the Commission approved a 2% salary increase for Commission employees based on cost of living increases and social security cost of living increase for 2018. As a result of savings, primarily in the area of health benefits, the increase to member municipalities will be 0% for 2018. The costs to the towns will remain the same and the services offered will also remain the same. Therefore, the cost to Bound Brook for 2018 will be the same as that ultimately agreed upon in 2017 for part time REHS services at \$99,618.00. B. Lobman moved to approve the 2018 budget with second by L. Slater. All were in favor by roll call vote.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA:

Members also agreed that only agendas for meetings needed to be mailed and that all meeting materials would be sent by email.

A. Torregroza advised members that he believes much of the misunderstanding about the Board of Health and health department could be alleviated if we did a better job of explaining what we do. He is proposing that we craft regular articles about Board of Health and Health Department activities that can be submitted to the Bound Brook Chronicle for publication. He suggested topic areas such as community health,

environmental health and inspections, trends in public health, wellness, and prevention, promotion, and protection activities.

A. Torregroza also asked members to try to identify residents with an interest who may be willing to join the Board as we have vacancies.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, L. Slater moved to adjourn, seconded by A. Robinson at 7:50 pm; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin G. Sumner
Health Officer