

REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAKLAND BOARD OF HEALTH

June 14, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

Conference Room - Municipal Building, Municipal Plaza, Oakland, NJ

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beattie called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

OTHERS PRESENT

Council Liaison Pasquale Pignatelli, Senior Sanitary Inspector (REHS) Deborah A. McGrath, and Thomas J. Romans, Esq.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Beattie announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with the regulations of the Public Meetings Law, notices of which were sent to The Record, Suburban Trends and any other persons requesting same.

REGULAR BUSINESS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of May 10th. On motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Ms. West, the minutes were approved.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus. Mr. Tiffinger abstained.

REVIEW REPORTS

- Sanitarian's (REHS') Monthly Report – May 2010
- Secretary's Registrar's Monthly Report – May 2010
- Tyco Animal Control Report – May 2010

The type of septic system serving a dwelling located on River Road was discussed. Mr. Beattie asked Inspector McGrath to check the records to determine what type of system exists on this property and report her findings at next month's meeting.

On motion of Ms. Wilgus, seconded by Mr. Ostapczuk, the reports were accepted.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas - Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The Board reviewed the following bills.

Regular Meeting of the Oakland Board of Health – June 14, 2010 – Page 2

05/06/2010 – North Jersey Media Group (Publish Ordinance #10-CODE-83)	\$ 88.32
05/11/2010 – Borough of Waldwick (One child seen for exam at 5/11/10 CHC)	\$ 35.00
06/01/2010 – Tyco Animal Control (May Animal Control Services, per contract. No emergency calls)	\$1,150.00
06/14/2010 – Thomas J. Romans (Attend 6/14/2010 BOH Meeting, per retainer agreement)	\$ 208.00

On motion of Mr. Tiffinger, seconded by Dr. Davis, the bills were approved for payment.

ROLL CALL: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BRAIN CANCER

It was reported that State Epidemiologist Lisa Paddock responded to the two questions raised by the Board at the May meeting:

1. “Unfortunately, no the state does not regularly monitor the cancer statistics (otherwise known as ‘active surveillance’) for cancer clusters. When a concerned citizen contacts us, we determine the numbers and types of cancer being diagnosed to see if there is an unusual pattern, as we did with the inquiry from Oakland.”
2. “When cancer rates are based on count less than five (as in this case), we suppress the information as a way to ensure a greater level of statistical reliability and to protect confidentiality. Cancer rates at the municipality level (such as for Oakland Borough) can also be imprecise due to small population numbers and very small case numbers. As a policy, we only provide county statistics and provide an overview of municipal trends. In a case like this where the numbers are so small, we look at patterns over time and proportions of cancer types in the geographic area of concern and make comparisons to the county and state. As I explained in the letter, the patterns in Oakland are similar to those in Bergen County and in New Jersey. I would be more than happy to explain this further if it seems confusing.”

Mr. Beattie reported that he and Ms. West had been scheduled to meet with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Heflich on May 24th to discuss the cancer cluster investigation and report from Ms. Paddock. Dr. Heflich canceled the meeting and has yet to reschedule. Mr. Beattie reported that hindering the cancer cluster investigation was the inability of the Health Department and State Epidemiologist to obtain information the Oakland’s schools possessed about cases of childhood brain cancer. Since a cancer cluster investigation is conducted in the interest of public health, sharing this type of information with public health agencies does not violate the HIPPA laws. A copy of the HIPPA laws was distributed to members of the Board.

On motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Ms. West, this portion of the meeting was suspended to move to New Business for a discussion on the Oakland Diner.

Roll Call: All Yeas - Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

RIVERSIDE DRIVE

Inspector McGrath reported that the Building Dept. had no records available on this property. Furthermore, no approvals were found to make the dwellings year-round residences, only an approval to winterize a water pipe in Unit 6A. The Zoning Board turned down the request because of the insufficient septic system. All the units were eventually winterized, however no records can be found to document when this happened.

NEW BUSINESS

OAKLAND DINER

On motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Ms. West, the meeting was opened to the public.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

Inspector McGrath reported that the owner of this establishment was summoned to appear before the Board for operating since January under a temporary food license issued for failing to have a certified food manager on the premises. The previous certified food manager was a former partner who is no longer working at the establishment.

Mr. Harry Mihas, of Haskell, NJ introduced himself as the owner of the Oakland Diner and explained that it is difficult for him to attend the 18-hour course due to the fact that he is working 16 to 17 hours a day. Mr. Mihas apologized for not attending sooner and reported that he is currently enrolled and has already attended three classes.

Mr. Beattie asked for Inspector McGrath's recommendation. Inspector McGrath responded that Mr. Mihas must pass the test recommended that enforcement action be withheld. Mr. Mihas thanked Inspector McGrath and the Board and then left the meeting.

Motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Ostapczuk, the meeting was closed to the public.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

On Motion of Dr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Wilgus, the meeting reverted back to Old Business to discuss Riverside Drive.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

SPECIAL NEEDS SURVEY

The Board discussed the suitability of the current storage location for the special needs surveys, i.e., a locked file cabinet in the Health Department office. In the event of an emergency, emergency responders would not have access to this information. Ms. Dubowick reported that she had discussed this problem with Police Chief Kasper. Since all emergency responders are dispatched through the Police Dept. it was identified as the more suitable department in which to store the surveys. The Board agreed and decided that prior to transferring the surveys, each respondent would be required to sign a consent form. Ms. Dubowick will prepare the form and send a copy to each respondent.

BROWNS' DOGS

It was reported that Mr. Brown appeared at last Wednesday's Council meeting to request an extension on the June 24th deadline to remove the three excess dogs from his premises. While Mr. Brown signed an agreement stating he would sell his house by June 24th or remove the three dogs from his premises, he spoke of his extenuating circumstances and reported that his house had not yet been sold.

Regular Meeting of the Oakland Board of Health – June 14, 2010 – Page 4

The Mayor authorized a 90-day extension on the deadline, provided there are no complaints received from any of Mr. Brown’s neighbors or violations found upon inspection of the premises on June 24th. No further extensions will be granted.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

UPDATE ON VISION & HEARING SCREENING

It was reported that a total of 13 children participated in the screening held at Ponds Reformed Church on May 19th. One child was found to have a vision deficiency and five children were found to have hearing deficiencies. These children were referred to private physicians for further testing. The current allergy season, reportedly the worst on record, was identified as a possible factor contributing to the number of children with hearing deficiencies.

UPDATE ON RABIES CLINIC

It was reported that either Dr. Duhr or Dr. Shea from Ramapo Valley Animal Hospital will once again staff the town Rabies Clinic scheduled for November 13th.

H1N1 MUTUAL AID

Council Liaison Pignatelli reported that officials in Oakland and in surrounding towns have identified the shortage of available volunteers as a problem relative to responding to a large-scale emergency. Mutual aid is being discussed as a solution. Council Liaison Pignatelli will keep the Board apprised of future developments.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Ms. Wilgus, seconded by Mr. Ostapczuk, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Mr. Beattie, Dr. Davis, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Tiffinger, Ms. West, Ms. Wilgus

APPROVED:

Ronald J. Beattie, President

ATTEST: _____
Karin Kennedy Dubowick, Secretary

DATE: _____