

# **REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAKLAND BOARD OF HEALTH**

**March 17, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.**

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

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Tiffinger called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

### **ROLL CALL**

Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

### **ABSENT MEMBERS**

Ms. West was absent due to a prior engagement.

Motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Ms. Blanco, Ms. West's absence was excused.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Council Liaison Pasquale Pignatelli & Senior R.E.H.S. Joseph Gautier

### **MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mr. Tiffinger 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 February minutes.

On motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Mr. Talucci, the minutes were approved.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger. Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi and Ms. Blanco abstained.

#### **REVIEW REPORTS**

The Board reviewed the following reports:

- Monthly REHS' Report – February
- Secretary's/Registrar's Report – February
- Tyco Animal Control Report – February

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- BCDHS Public Health Nursing Activity Report – February
- BCDHS Public Health Nursing` School Audit Reports

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

Roll Call: All Yeas – Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

The Board reviewed the following bills:

2/11/2015 – Borough of Waldwick (Yearly Administrative Fee & 2 children immunized at the 2/10/2015 CHC)	\$ 165.00
3/1/2015 – Tyco Animal Control (February Animal Control Services, per contract)	\$1,250.00
3/1/2015 – Tyco Animal Control (February Animal Control - one Emergency Call)	\$ 60.00
3/4/2015 – Registrar’s Assn. of New Jersey (Yearly Dues for Registrar & Deputy Registrar)	\$ 50.00
3/4/2015 – Registrar’s Assn. of New Jersey (Recertification Class – Registrar & Deputy Registrar)	\$ 70.00
3/16/2015 – Thomas J. Romans, Esq. (For professional services rendered in March, per contract)	\$ 217.50

On motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded Mr. Talucci, the Board approved the bills for payment.

Roll Call: All Yeas –Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **STIGMA FREE CAMPAIGN**

Council Liaison Pignatelli reported that the County started this campaign to reduce the stigma of mental illness. The World Health Organization estimates that one in four people has some form of diagnosable mental illness, e.g., depression, anxiety, alcohol or substance abuse. The County is stigma free as are other towns in the County and throughout the state, and they make people aware of resources available for people with mental illness to go to for help.

Kathy Pignatelli, Council Liaison Pignatelli’s wife, has a \$300,000 grant that she is going to administrate at Bergen Community College. Through the grant, they will be doing mental health first aid. Ms. Pignatelli has trained 450 students and faculty on how to recognize those with a mental illness, what to do to help and counsel them and how to refer them to the appropriate agency for more specific counseling.

Councilman Pignatelli said he would like the Board to endorse the Campaign. A committee is going to be formed in Oakland. Ms. Dubowick and Ms. Pignatelli have volunteered to serve on the committee. Ms.

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Pignatelli with her numerous years of training and experience will be a great resource. The County will also help as a resource. Once the Board endorses the campaign, Councilman Liaison Pignatelli will present it to the Mayor and Council to have a resolution adopted proclaiming that Oakland is a Stigma Free Community.

Training programs will be offered to the community for people with a family member, relative, next door neighbor or someone they know who might have a mental illness. Mr. Pignatelli said people are afraid of the stigma associated with having a mental illness. Mental illness is no different from any other illness, such as diabetes or a heart condition, diseases that would not be stigmatized. Lifting the stigma on mental illness will help tragedies from happening. People die from suicide, depression and anxiety and other factors associated with it, such as bullying.

This campaign brings educational resources to people. Oakland is fortunate to have West Bergen Mental Health Services right here in town. They are a tremendous resource, as are several others in town.

A sample resolution and samples of the campaign promotional materials were presented to the Board as well as a description of the training.

The Stigma Free Campaign is a highly successful national program adopted in New Jersey that Council Liaison Pignatelli hopes will be just as successful here in Oakland. It is also hoped that the campaign will be far enough along that a booth can be set up at the Town Carnival. Council Liaison Pignatelli said it would be great to have a member of the Board on the campaign committee and that it is not only people with a medical background that are needed. People from all different levels of society would provide a good perspective. Anyone interested should give Council Liaison Pignatelli a call.

Ms. Ashkenazi asked about the main objective in forming the committee and how the goals will be accomplished. Council Liaison Pignatelli said the committee is being formed to set a goal to raise awareness of mental health resources. The Campaign toolkit provides a list of suggested activities, including but not limited to:

- Run a town hall meeting about the Stigma Free Resolution.
- Hold a public Stigma Free Forum to discuss your community Stigma Free goals and suggestions for campaign events.
- Host a stigma free charity walk.
- Set up a booth at your town carnival
- Host a poster contest in the schools.

In summar, the purpose of the campaign is to break down barriers, be mindful of mental health and to get help when needed. Council Liaison Pignatelli said anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact him.

A discussion took place about how mental illness affects every relationship in one's life and how anxiety in children has become so prevalent.

Council Liaison Pignatelli said he would appreciate someone making a motion to endorse the campaign.

On motion of Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Mr. Talucci, the Board of Health moved to endorse the Stigma Free Campaign.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

**BOARD OF HEALTH CONTACT LIST**

Mr. & Ms. Ashkenazi's cellphone numbers were obtained and will be added to the list. Ms. Ashkenazi added that Mr. Ashkenazi has an MBA in addition to a BS and MS. A final copy with the added information will be sent to all members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**LENAPE VALLEY GRILL**

Inspector Gautier reported that Inspector Caperino made the initial inspection, gave them a Conditional and issued summonses for repeat violations and food temperature violations due to the Bain Marie being left open. They also had hand washing issues, i.e., not changing gloves between tasks and not washing hands prior to putting on the gloves. Mr. Ashkenazi, a food scientist, said he would prefer that people not wear gloves. Council Liaison Pignatelli noted that staph is one of the most common food infections. Inspector Gautier said the gloves protect infected cuts on the hands from spreading staph bacteria to the food. Toxins can develop in the food that are not killed when the food is cooked.

Inspector Gautier said the owner called that day and was a little irate. He wanted the reinspection done by someone other than Inspector Caperino. Since Inspector Gautier had the time that day, he informed the owner that he would be there that afternoon. Inspector Rebecca Pigionelli accompanied Inspector Gautier to the establishment. Even with the owner knowing an inspection was being done that day, there were food temperature violations, hand washing violations and sanitization violations resulting in the issuance of a second Conditional rating. Inspector Gautier said the initial inspection is done at random.

Inspector Gautier reported that as he went over each of the violations with the owner and staff, he explained how each violation could make people sick, the reason for the laws and why each is enforced. A second reinspection will be done in two days. Mr. Gautier said he is going to be working with the establishment's staff in hopes of bringing them into compliance.

Council Liaison Pignatelli explained to Mr. Ashkenazi that education is a large component of the inspection process and provided an example of how the Board required another repeat offender to retake the food courses. Inspector Gautier added that a 200% rate of turnover in the food service industry also adds to the problem; however, this is not the case at Lenape Valley Grill which is a family run business. The business will also be required to pay a \$100 fee for the second reinspection.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**RADON AWARENESS**

Mr. Tiffinger reported that we received brochures and give-aways from the state, and an article on radon awareness was submitted for publication in the Spring Edition of Crossroads.

The Board discussed the subject of radon, a colorless, odorless gas that causes lung cancer. It was noted that Oakland is in the Reading Prong, an area where high levels of radon are found. Levels of radon can vary greatly from one house to the next and is found more often in homes built over rock. The highest levels in New Jersey are found in Hunterdon County.

Home radon test kits are available at many local hardware stores. The canister must be placed in the basement where the highest level of radon is found in the home. If remediation is needed, it is done via installation of a ventilation system.

**SENIOR FLU SHOT PROGRAM**

Ms. Dubowick reported on the pricing structure of the 2014 Bergen County Flu Shot Program since the pricing for the 2015 program is yet unavailable. The County would have charged the Borough \$4.50 for each claim accepted by Medicare and \$38.50 for each denied claim. The County has no means to pre-screen participants to determine their Medicare eligibility which would limit the cost to the Borough.

As reported last month, Oakland Drug ran the Senior Flu Shot Program 2014 and charged nothing for the vaccine or for administration. Oakland Drug submitted claims directly to Medicare and billed participants whose claims were denied. There was no cost to the Borough for the program.

Also discussed was whether to move up the Senior Flu Shot Program from early November to early October. Mr. Talucci felt November is too late to administer flu shots because immunity wouldn't develop until early December. Ms. Dubowick noted that the program was pushed back to early November due to the shipment delays that occurred several years in a row, requiring the program to be rescheduled. Per the Board's request, Ms. Dubowick will contact the Senior Center Director and the owner of Oakland Drugs to coordinate a date in early October for the 2015 Senior Flu Shot Program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of, Mr. Ostapczuk, seconded by Ms. Blanco, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Roll Call: All Yeas – Ms. Ashkenazi, Mr. Ashkenazi, Ms. Blanco, Mr. Ostapczuk, Mr. Talucci, Mr. Tiffinger

APPROVED:

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Stephen C. Tiffinger, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karin Kennedy Dubowick, Secretary

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_