

**BOARD OF HEALTH – TOWNSHIP OF MENDHAM
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2024 – 7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: *Wendy Parrinello, Board Secretary*

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Adequate Notice of this meeting of the Board of Health of the Township of Mendham was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to the Observer Tribune and Daily Record on January 31, 2023. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township offices and notice was filed with the Township Clerk.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG: *Led by Ms. Wendy Parrinello*

OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Mills delivers the Oath of Office to Mr. Weber, Mr. Atkins and Mr. Mitilenes, all reappointed and full members of the Board of Health.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. John Atkins
Mr. Nickolas Mitilenes
Ms. Ann Reale
Mr. Benjamin Weber

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE OF PRESIDENT FOR 2024

1. Call for Nominations for President – Mr. Atkins nominates Mr. Weber for President of the Board of Health. Mr. Mitilenes seconds the motion. Mr. Weber Accepts.
2. Close Nominations: Mr. Mitilenes motions to close nominations. Mr. Atkins seconds the motion.
3. All in favor say, Aye. All say, Aye.

PRESIDENT BENJAMIN WEBER PRESIDING

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2024

1. Call for Nominations for Vice President – Mr. Weber nominates Mr. Atkins for Vice President of the Board of Health. Ms. Reale seconds the motion. Mr. Atkins accepts.
2. Close Nominations: Mr. Weber motions to close nominations. Ms. Reale seconds the motion.
3. All in favor say, Aye. All say, Aye.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION BH 24-1: Open Public Meetings Act

RESOLUTION BH 24-2: Scheduling of Meetings

RESOLUTION BH 24-3: Appointment of Board Attorney

RESOLUTION BH 24-4: Appointment of Consulting Engineer

- Mr. Mills covers the Board of Health Resolutions BH 24-1 through BH 24-4 for the 2024 year and for January 2025.
- Mr. Weber moves to approve the three resolutions BH 24-1 through BH 24-3, BH 24-4 will be tabled until the next Board of Health meeting. Mr. Mitilenes seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE – YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Ms. Reale

Mr. Weber

ALTERNATE BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS:

Mr. Weber recommends that Mr. Michael Rohal is appointed Alternate 2 and that Diane Tolley be moved to Alternate 1. Mr. Weber makes a motion that the two Alternate positions are filled in this manner. Mr. Mitilenes seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE – YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Ms. Reale

Mr. Weber

Mr. Mills delivers the Oath of Office to Mr. Rohal

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 28, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Weber makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes for November 28, 2023 as presented. Mr. Mitilenes seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL: YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Ms. Reale (abstain)

Mr. Weber

HEALTH OFFICER'S MONTHLY REPORTS

Reviewed by Ms. Freer. Full reports available in the Board of Health Office

November 2023

- Dr. Carlos Perez, Health Officer, continues to participate in conference calls hosted by the New Jersey Department of Health relative to grant funding.
- Dr. Perez attended the New Jersey League of Municipalities in Atlantic City from November 13 – November 16, 2023.
- The Assistant Health provided guidance to REHS staff and assisted with administration and supervision of Covid-19 and local public health activities.
- Assistant Health Officer continues to attend the New Jersey Certified Public Manager Program.
- Public Health Nurse continued to do daily surveillance and investigation of the CDRSS system for communicable diseases. No lead cases reported this month.
- Ms. Freer will follow up with the CDRSS report as it was not part of the November health packet.

December 2023

- Ms. Freer explains that Mr. Carlos Perez, Health Officer, went on medical leave beginning December 12, 2023 and expects to be back some time in February, 2024. Ms. Stephanie Gorman, Assistant Health Officer, has taken over health officer duties. All tasks and requirements are being fully tended to.
- Assistant Health Officer continues to attend New Jersey Certified Public Manager Program.
- Assistant Health Officer attended the Dale Carnegie High Impact Presentation Training.
- Health Educator continues to provide weekly blips and has updated the County's winter bi-annual newsletter.
- Ms. Freer explains that on December 8, 2023, the County received notification that a child had an elevated blood lead level. Lead testing on the inside of the resident's home was conducted, and XRF readings throughout the dwelling passed the lead standards. Dust wipe samples were collected and sent to a certified laboratory for testing. All results passed the lead standards.
- Ms. Freer states that the child was retested for lead and the blood results were still high for lead.
- Ms. Freer states that soil testing was completed at the home and the soil testing results were positive for lead. The homeowner will need to hire a contractor that is a licensed lead abatement contractor and remediate the soil.
- Ms. Freer explains that when soil is tested for lead, the drip line is tested on all four sides of the home, and in this case, the drip line hit positive on one side of the home, near a fence, where on the other side of the fence are chickens – the thought being that the child was on that side of the home to see the chickens.
- Mr. Weber asks what kind of interaction one must have with the soil that is contaminated with lead for those readings in the body. Ms. Freer states that it's likely from the dust that is kicked up and inhaled or debris getting into the mouth.
- Ms. Freer states that the homeowner has 30 days to submit plans for remediation.

- Ms. Reale asks about testing the neighboring property's soil. Ms. Freer states that they are not permitted to go onto other properties. The child would need to be on the neighboring property for a certain number of hours per day, per week for them to have any jurisdiction to be on that property.
- Mr. Mitilenes asks what method of blood lab lead testing is being used to make sure the results are coming back as accurate as possible. Ms. Freer is not sure about the blood work/lab methods that are put in place.
- Ms. Freer explains that Morris County Health Departments and the Morris Regional Public Health Partnership is beginning its community health assessment for 2024, which will lead into the Community Health Improvement Plan, required to be completed every five years.
- Mr. Weber makes a motion to accept the November 2023 and December 2023 Health Officers Reports as presented. Ms. Reale seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE – YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Ms. Reale

Mr. Weber

DISCUSSION: RESOLUTION BH 24-4: Appointment of Consulting Engineer

- Mr. Weber lets the Board know that Mr. Chris Korshalla, the Boards appointed engineer, has retired from his position at Colliers Engineering. Mr. Joseph Torlucci, a representative from Colliers Engineering, has reached out and is recommending two engineers (Andy Hipolit, PE and Carl O'Brien, PE) to fill the Board appointment, and has submitted resumes on their behalf.
- Mr. Weber and Mr. Mills discuss the nature of Mr. Korshalla's position as Board engineer. While Mr. Korshalla has done an excellent job in providing reviews for residential septic and well applications, Mr. Weber points out that Mr. Korshalla has not attended a Board of Health meeting in quite some time. Having an engineer present at Board meetings is beneficial, especially when questions arise that rely on engineer expertise. Moving forward, having the appointed engineer attend Board meetings in-person is something that the Board of Health will strongly encourage.
- Mr. Mills states that the engineer's position is a professional appointment and all fees paid to the engineer are strictly out of the applicant's escrow fee of \$1200.
- Mr. Weber asks the Board if they have any questions or suggestions on this matter.
- Mr. Mitilenes and Mr. Rohal suggest that Colliers Engineering designate a primary engineer and alternate engineer for the Board of Health.
- Mr. Weber states that he will communicate with Mr. Torlucci and will suggest that he chooses a primary and an alternate engineer. Mr. Weber will also discuss procedures, fees, and the Boards interest in having the engineer attend meetings in-person.

- There is a brief discussion about time sensitive septic and/or well materials/applications submitted to the health department, that require the Board engineers review and approval, and how to tend to those matters while not having an appointed engineer.
- As applications and other health department matters that require engineer approval come through, Mr. Weber motions to appoint Mr. Korshalla on a temporary basis until the Board has a permanently appointed engineer. Ms. Reale seconds the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE – YES

Mr. Atkins

Mr. Mitilenes

Ms. Reale

Mr. Weber

SUCH MATTERS THAT MAY RIGHTFULLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

Brookside Community Club: Chili Cookoff Event

Ms. Freer explains that the Brookside Community Club is planning to host a fundraising chili cook-off on February 3, 2024. An announcement was placed on social media and was advertised in the online publication, 'The Patch.' The chili cookoff invitation indicates that guests prepare chili at their home and bring it to the Community Club. Ms. Freer states that potentially hazardous foods are not permitted to be cooked in a home and served to the public in such a way that it poses a serious health risk to the public. There are other avenues in which this event can take place, i.e., cooking in a licensed kitchen, such as the firehouse. Without any adjustment to the event, it would need to be shut down.

Ms. Freer states that she will be reaching out to the event organizer for more information and to also share ways in which this event can still take place.

****Private events held at the Brookside Community Club can be conducted without Health Department approval.**

Lewis Morris Park: New Septic System

Ms. Freer states that Mendham Township, Morris Township and Harding Township all received applications for a new septic system to be installed at Lewis Morris Park, Sunrise Lake. The engineering firm is requesting that a TWA is signed by the County. Ms. Freer requested full plans from the engineer and explains that generally this is handled by the state, because when the septic flow is over 2000g per day, any permitting and approvals are immediately overseen by the NJ DEP. Ms. Freer will follow up.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:32 PM