

KENILWORTH BOARD OF HEALTH

575 Boulevard
Kenilworth, NJ 07033
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Minutes of December 17, 2020 Meeting

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 6:57 p.m.

President Randy Moscaritolo announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The Sunshine law was read.

On roll call the following members responded as follows:

Randy Moscaritolo	PRESENT
Jeanine Pentz	PRESENT
Dr. Jerome Forman	PRESENT
Scott Klinder	PRESENT
Nancy Lamoreaux	PRESENT
Krystyna Maslenko	PRESENT
Carla Gabriel	ABSENT

REHS Michael Balka, Health Officer Marconi Gapas, Council Liaison Gerry Laudati were present.

A motion was made by Vice President Pentz to accept the previous minutes and seconded by Commissioner Lamoreaux. All in Favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lamoreaux to accept the reports. It was seconded by Commissioner Maslenko. Upon roll call, all in favor

The Monthly income and expenses for November:

Income: \$ 261.00

Expenses: \$1,494.53

President Moscaritolo called for a motion for payment of bills. Vice President Pentz made a motion to pay the bills. Commissioner Lameroux seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all in favor.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

The Covid-19 virus developments were discussed. REHS Balka gave an update on the number of cases. There were 474 cases in town since the beginning of the pandemic. Of those 474, 164

cases have come in during the past 30 days. He then discussed the age and demographic breakdown

The Health Officer spoke about the vaccine, He explained we are now in Phase 1A of the distribution plan which is distribution of the vaccine to health care workers, EMTs, and EMS. He said if Moderna is approved next week those doses will be for more healthcare workers. Phase 1B will be for essential workers and the eventually the general public in the Spring. As more doses are available, there will be additional sites to receive the vaccine such as federally qualified health centers, local health departments, county sites, urgent care clinics and pharmacies. Union County is talking about using Kean, alternating days between the testing and the vaccination.

Council Liaison Laudati brought up the fact that we should educate the public on the vaccine. He felt we should put information out again as far as wearing masks and the vaccine. A discussion was then held with regard to the different vaccines and Covid in general. Dr. Forman requested the Health Officer to send information to the Board regarding the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Forman presented the topic of Merck. He questioned the Health Officer whether he is aware of any environmental problems at the Kenilworth plant. He asked if any testing had been done and if the town can test. He said he is afraid that when Merck leaves, if it is contaminated, the problem will be left for the town, as in Union.

The Health Officer said that in most industrial sites there is some level of contamination. He said there are different types of contamination Ground water is usually mapped out by the DEP. He said he would check into it. He said if the State is testing, we should be copied on their reports. Dr. Forman felt it is easier to deal with it while they are on the premises because after they are off, it will be up to the town. Health Officer Gapas said with any industrial property there is usually a transfer of cleanups in progress or projects that have been framed out usually transfer onto the new owner. Council Liaison Laudati said the Mayor is going to meet with Merck and their real estate people in the new year regarding the site. He suggested he call the mayor and invite himself to the meeting to take part in any ongoing crisis, if there is one. The Health Officer said he will make himself available, if the Mayor wishes him to attend.

Board went into executive session

Board returned from executive session

Commissioner Reports: None

Council Liaison reports:

Council Liaison Laudati informed the Board of the following:

- Kyle Arlington awarded employee of year

- Library applying for grant
- PBA contract is completed a 4-year contract
- There was a hearing for a forman of the DPW who was let go.
- Councilman Finestrella was sworn by Senator Kean.
- Cares money was approved for an ambulance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lameroux and seconded by Vice President Pentz to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 7:57 p.m.

The reorganization meeting will be held on January 21 2021 at 7 p.m, with the January meeting to follow directly after.

Randy M. Moscaritolo
President Board of Health

Marconi Gapas
Health Officer

Submitted by Karen Kizelevich, Board Secretary

