

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH of the Borough of Paramus held on April 30, 2018 at the Paramus Borough Hall.

Meeting was called to order at 7:55 pm by President Nazziola.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dr. Nazziola, Ms. Lisette Mena, Mr. Verile, Ms. Uzzi, Dr. Ahmed (by phone)

Also Present: Mrs. Migliaccio, Council Liaison Maria Bellinger, Councilwoman Jeanne Weber

PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

In accordance with the Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by mail to THE RECORD and filed with the Borough Clerk on January 2, 2018.

AGENDA

Reading of the Agenda by Judith Migliaccio, Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Mena and seconded by Ms. Uzzi that the Minutes of the meeting of March 26, 2018 be approved as circulated.

Motion was approved.

Before proceeding to the correspondence, the meeting was open to the public.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Migliaccio stated that since our new Governor is intending to make recreational marijuana legal in New Jersey, Paramus should be considering how to take steps on how it will be regulated.

At this time, Mrs. Migliaccio introduced Police Chief Ehrenberg to join the discussion with the Board members regarding marijuana use in Paramus.

Chief Ehrenberg prefaced his remarks with his personal feeling about the use of marijuana stating that educating a child about marijuana use starts at home with the parents.

He stated facts about marijuana and how it's sold in the black market where other drugs are sold at the same time. This can be enticing for anyone purchasing one thing and end up purchasing something else, like cocaine, crack or heroin. He also felt that if the sale of marijuana was regulated, there would not be a choice of other drugs to buy from, at that one place.

Chief Ehrenberg along with the Board members ideally feel the best way to find out if Paramus residents want marijuana legalized is to have a referendum on the ballot to decide. If the people do vote for the legalization of marijuana, Paramus will need to make plans for locations of where to sell it and how.

There will be a need for many things to be considered such as the growing and production of the marijuana plant, packaging, storage, pricing and limitations on how much can be purchased or grown personally.

The Board was curious how the Police will be able to tell if someone has been smoking marijuana while driving, for instance. Ehrenberg stated that it would be the same way that a driver under the influence of alcohol is determined. With marijuana, there would be a test to determine the level of THC in blood or urine.

Chief Ehrenberg did speak of some pros about the legalization of marijuana in Paramus. He stated that marijuana is here to stay in Paramus and every other town. The fact that people have to obtain it illegally through the black market makes it not only dangerous, but could result in arrest.

The law would still remain at 21, just like any tobacco use. If you're under 21 and get caught with marijuana, you will be arrested.

You are also denying the gang members access if it gets legalized, which is a plus.

Also, recreational marijuana could bring in a great deal of revenue for Paramus. Why allow a neighboring town who is a stone's throw away from Paramus who has legalized it, to reap the rewards which could be millions of dollars in tax revenue.

Ehrenberg relayed that every part of legalized marijuana needs to be regulated. Eatables, such as laced gummy bears, need to be regulated. Colorado, after legalization, made many mistakes and one of them was not regulating eatables. They also allow anyone to walk down the street smoking pot, which would be illegal here in New Jersey. There was also a 40% increase in the amount of fatal vehicular crashes in Colorado since the legalization of marijuana.

Chief Ehrenberg stated that there are so many variables to consider if marijuana does become legal, therefore, there will be much work to do in preparation for that event.

The Board thanked Police Chief Ehrenberg for all of his input and since no one else wished to be heard, the meeting was closed to the public.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Nazziola asked for comments on the correspondence.

Mrs. Migliaccio briefly reviewed the following correspondence for this month:

Press Release/Free BP & Diabetes Screening dates in April.

Memo to Shade Tree from Mrs. Migliaccio requesting use of garage for Rabies Clinic on May 3rd

Letter from State with information regarding National and State rates of (NAS) Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome attributed to opioids continuing to rise, resulting in adverse health conditions among affected infants.

Press Release/May Designated As National Stroke Awareness Month.

Ordinance Amending Chapter 323-8 to Ban E-cigarettes and Vaping in all Public Parks and Public Grounds.

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the correspondence be approved as submitted.

Motion was approved.

STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Nazziola asked for comments on the Health Officer's Report.

Mrs. Migliaccio relayed that communicable disease investigations continue to be followed up on a daily basis by the nurses along with their many other services for the residents of Paramus.

The nurses continue to audit all schools in Paramus for their immunization records.

The nurses met with Police Officers to discuss setting up a program to conduct vision screening for all of Paramus Crossing Guards.

Also, a possible case of Legionella in a member of a fitness center in Paramus.

Consulted with PMS regarding a possible TB exposure of a PEMS team, to a person with active TB. Further investigation concluded that the patient did not have TB.

March was Colorectal Cancer Awareness month and National Nutrition Awareness month with flyers distributed in Borough Hall, Human Services, the Senior Center and libraries with information including oral cancer screenings, good nutrition and exercise.

Valley Health Education had several programs at different locations in Paramus. They were entitled: Making Healthy Choices Jeopardy, Nutrition Jeopardy, BP Screening, Heart Health Lecture, Cancer Screening Guidelines, Go Blue Drive Away Cancer, Go Blue Fashion Show, Nutrition Plate and WLC Support Group.

At Shop-Rite, they had cooking classes and demonstrations. At Gold's Gym, they had a free cardio class and at New Bridge Medical Center they had "Understanding the Psychological Impact of Food".

The Food Pantry is still busy with many donations collected and a successful Spring Food Drive on March 24th.

The inspectors remain busy with 67 food establishment inspections and 3 complaints.

As usual, Animal Control remains busy with 10 calls and 15 animals handled for March.

We continued the TASE Program resulting in Mint Vapes at the GSP closing for selling tobacco products to someone under 21.

The inspectors had several emergency calls during the month which were all taken care of.

Mrs. Migliaccio stated that the Deputy Registrar's Report was attached listing all of the food licensing, electronic cigarette device permits, beauty parlor/nail salon registrations, vending machines, food seminars, dog and cat licensing and all vital statistic transcripts for the Month of March.

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the Health Officer's report for March be approved as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Nazziola asked the Board for any old business.

The Board briefly discussed what they had heard regarding the pros and cons of marijuana from Chief Ehrenberg, relaying that they will create a resolution from the Board of Health for the State stating their position to not legalize recreational marijuana use anywhere. This resolution will be sent to Senator Joseph Lagana and cc'd to Senator Joseph Vitale, as he is the Chair of Health and Human Services.

The Board put a draft together and discussed it before finalizing it for the State.

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the proposed Resolution to discourage the State from legalizing marijuana in New Jersey be passed as written.

Roll Call Vote: Dr. Nazziola, Yes; Dr. Ahmed, Yes; Ms. Mena, Yes; Ms. Uzzi, Yes;
 Mr. Verile, Yes.

Motion was approved.

An Ordinance on the number of pets allowed in a home was also discussed, but tabled until the next Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

Resolution No. 18-4-1 Foodhandling License– 2018

Moved by Ms. Mena and seconded by Ms. Uzzi that the attached Restaurant License Appendix A-FH 110991 be approved.

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the attached Foodhandling Licenses Appendix A-FH 111011 through A-FH 111009 be approved.

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the attached Kitchen Licenses Appendix A-FH 110999 through A-FH 110997 be approved.

Motion was approved.

Resolution No. 18-4-2 Vending Machine Licenses - 2018

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Dr. Ahmed that the attached Vending Machine Licenses Appendix E-VMO 110989 through E-VMO 110990 be approved.

Motion was approved.

Resolution No. 18-4-3 e-Cigarettes License - 2018

Moved by Ms. Uzzi and seconded by Ms. Mena that the attached e-Cigarette License Appendix G-EC 110988 be approved.

Motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Board, upon motion by Ms. Mena and seconded by Ms. Uzzi and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Migliaccio
Secretary