

**RAMSEY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD MARCH 12, 2020**

1. President’s Announcement

Mrs. Azouri called the meeting of the Ramsey Board of Health to order at 8:04 P.M. In accordance with requirement of N.J.S. 10:4-6, President Tami Azouri made the following announcement:

THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW WAS ENACTED TO ENSURE THE RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS TO HAVE ADVANCE PUBLIC NOTICE OF AND TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES AT WHICH BUSINESS AFFECTING THE PUBLIC IS DISCUSSED OR ACTED UPON. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, NOTICE OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LEGAL AD SECTIONS OF THE BERGEN RECORD AND RIDGEWOOD NEWS ON DECEMBER 27, 2019.

Adequate notice of meeting has been provided by.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 13 of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 of the laws of the State of New Jersey, the regular meetings of the Ramsey Board of Health of the Borough of Ramsey for the year 2020 are held on the second Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M. and shall be held in the upstairs Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located at 33 North Central Avenue, Ramsey, NJ as follows:

3. Call to order, attendance, minutes:

| MEMBERS | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mrs. Tami Azouri | X | |
| Mrs. Joan Waring | X | |
| Mr. Jeffery Nemeth | X | |
| Dr. Albert Tartini | X | |
| Mr. William Lara | | X |
| Ms. Heidi Martin | X | |
| Dr. Angela D’Alessandro | X | |
| Ms. Sara Poppe | X | |
| Dr. Carla Souza | X | |

| IN ATTENDANCE | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| Mr. Jane Woods, Council Liaison | X | |
| Mr. Sam Yanovich, Health Officer | X | |
| Mrs. Martha Sobanko, R.E.H.S | X | |
| Ms. Danielle Monaghan, Board Secretary | X | |
| Mayor Deirdre Dillon | X | |
| Mr. Bruce Vozeh, Administrator | X | |
| Glen Karpovich, OEM | X | |
| Chris Hurley, Ambulance Corps | X | |

The roll was called by Danielle Monaghan. Motion was made by Joan Waring to approve the minutes from the February meeting and seconded by Heidi Martin.

4. Announcements:

Glen Karpovich from Ramsey OEM gave an update on the status of OEM. They started proactively meeting in February to begin preparing to have a plan in place for the coronavirus outbreak thanks to Mayor Dillon setting up a coronavirus task force. OEM is a support agency to help get you what you need in a health emergency per the EOP Health Annex. The National Strategic Stock Pile of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be released such as masks, gowns, and gloves. All records are being kept to submit to FEMA for reimbursement of funds used to provide PPE to our emergency service and first responders. Glen also spoke on how emergency readiness is recommended all year round. Bruce Vozeh said it has been a team effort. Mayor Dillon announced that the senior center has been closed and the trips that were planned have been canceled. The library will be having programs for the seniors to participate in. They have contingency plans for the water system in place and have been proactive in planning. Captain Stitz has been working with Valley hospital to get emergency responders fitted for masks.

5. Codes, Ordinances & Legislation:

Joan spoke about the new vaccine bills. Sweeny has a new bill proposed that states there are only two reasons to be exempt and attend a public school including a medical exemption or if a sibling has had an adverse reaction to the vaccine. Private schools of all type can allow non-vaccinated children to attend but will be required to post how many unvaccinated children are there. The bill is still in committee but Joan would like to promote the support of this bill. Joan would like to collectively contact other local Boards of Health to see if they would be interested in giving their support as well.

6. Special Matters:

COVID 19- Jeff asked if there was a plan in place for Ramsey residents who will be quarantined. Members said items can be left on the front steps of people who cannot leave their homes. Joan recommended making a Board of Health plan to find community organizations and come up with what we could do such as have a phone number for people to call if they need help. Some senior citizens are already pre-registered with the police department through operation reassurance. Mayor Dillon said it was great the Board wants to be proactive in creating a plan for volunteers. She believes it will also happen organically between Ramsey residents. Dr. Tartini and Tami were discussing how testing and kits for testing at Valley are in a separate room but the situation is constantly evolving as we speak. Dr. Souza talked about the progress in South Korea. Jane Woods asked how the numbers are being tracked and Tami explained the CDRS system and guidelines in compliance with HIPPA. Dr. Tartini said there is no treatment but some people are recovering. There have been no children diagnosed as of now. Joan said there have been 2,500 new cases in Italy and the number of cases in China is declining. Dr. Tartini said that a vaccine will be a long way away.

Vaping - Martha stated that other towns are moving forwards on raising fees on stores that sell vaping products. As of April 1st all flavors are banned. The Board of Health doesn't want to hurt the merchants they want to charge who buys it. Martha said Paramus and Wayne are charging \$500, \$750, respectively. Martha proposed to charge \$750.

7. Site Plans:

None

8. Public Water Supply:

None

9. Public Health:

Sam reported that there have been 79 cases recorded in NJ and numbers are on the website. Sam stated information is constantly changing and we are seeing how it goes. He also stated that HARP must follow HIPPA guideline and cannot release personal information on positive cases. Reports will say age only.

10. Health Education; Communication; Outreach:

We have updated the Board of Health page and created a Health Department page on the Ramsey website. Mr. Tartini suggested putting up the Journals that have been written on the website. We will add TIP 411, Stigma Free information, and 262 HELP. We can reach out to the Library to see if they are interested in streaming a mental health first aid program.

11. Inspection Reports:

Mrs. Sobanko read her report to the Board.

12. Abatement Orders:

Mrs. Sobanko read her report to the Board.

13. Vital Statistics:

Ms. Monaghan read the Vital Statistics activity report.

14. Financial Report:

Mr. Nemeth read off what income came through Board of Health Licenses and Vital Statistics.

15. Ambulance; Ramsey Municipal Alliance; other organizations:

Chris Hurley introduced himself to the Board Members as the new ambulance liaison. The ambulance is actively working on the front lines of COVID-19. They have reduced the crew to a driver and a caregiver to minimize contact. They are following all CDC requirements on PPE when responding to calls with symptoms such as general weakness and flu like symptoms. As of now, there have been no calls. Ambulances are being cleaned and will continue being cleaned. Members asked if next meeting Chris could bring information on # of calls, monthly statistics, and trends such as how many falls/how many cardiac calls, etc.

Sara said the Ramsey Alliance will be having their meet the police and drug take back program in June. Currently they are working on administrative work while they are not running programs. She also suggested adding TIP 411 onto the website. It is a service through the police station where see something say something tips can be reported. This could be a tree in the road or suspicious behavior or more.

16. Conferences and Training:

Martha attended a conference in Atlantic City in March.

17. Council Report:

Mrs. Woods reported the pod on Martis is being installed mid-May and the beautification project will begin around June. The pod will try to match the pool house façade. This project includes 8 wells and 6 pods to modernize systems to comply with standards that have changed

18. Correspondence

None.

19. New Business:

The Environmental Commission is sending out a Plastic Bag Survey out to the businesses in Ramsey. Dr. Tartini suggested maybe we could make Ramsey reusable bags to limit plastic bag use. He also said that Shoprite usually gives out reusable bags on Ramsey Day.

20. Review of Assignments:

How can we help people who are quarantined?
Plan mental health programs?

21. Public Comment:

None.

22. Adjournment:

The Board moved to adjourn at approximately 9:42 PM. Motion was made by Mr. Nemeth, seconded by Dr. Tartini, and carried by all.