

Board of Health of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2021

PRESENT: Board President Nadine Benoit and Board Members Heidi Askin, Maria Crean, Robin Iversen, Christopher Martin, Linda Morgan, and Susan Toron
(*via teleconference*)

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Communications John Gil (*via teleconference*)
Borough Sanitarian Kristin Caperino (*via teleconference*)
Police Chief George Scherb (*via teleconference*)
OEM Coordinator Michael Dillion (*via teleconference*)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Health of the Borough of Allendale was held on February 4, 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, access to the public was provided via GoToMeeting teleconferencing only, with adequate notice of same posted for public viewing. The meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m. by President Benoit who reminded the public to mute their devices so as not to distract from the business at hand. President Benoit confirmed that the open public meeting requirements had been satisfied.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Board Member Iverson, second by Board Member Martin, with no objections and all members present in favor, that the Minutes of January 7, 2020, Reorganization Meeting be approved.

Secretary/Registrar Report:

Mr. Gil reported that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Adult and Child Health Clinics have been suspended until further notice. The Vital Statistics Monthly Report was received from Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission for November with two (2) marriage certificates having been issued for a total of \$20.00 to the Borough. Two (2) deaths were reported.

Communications/Correspondence:

Mr. Gil listed various informational emails sent by Borough Sanitarian Kristin Caperino as well as the 2021 State of Tobacco report from the American Lung Association and the Annual Immunization Status Report from Northern Highlands Regional High School.

Health Officer/Sanitarian Reports:

Borough Sanitarian Kristin Caperino reported that since many inspections were completed in November and December, they would be waiting to inspect again. There were no reports of COVID-related issues or dog bites. Overall it's been a quiet month.

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President Benoit brought up an anonymous complaint regarding Finos being over capacity. President Benoit and Sanitarian Caperino reminded the public that law enforcement needs to be notified at the time any issue are occurring so a report can be documented. The County Health Department can then work off that report. Police Chief George Scherb reported that the Department had not received any related calls.

Old Business:

Board Member Askin and President Benoit gave an update on the USRA Coalition.

New Business:

Resolutions:

2021-05/Well Baby Agreement

Motion by Board Member Askin, second by Board Member Morgan that Resolution 2021-05 be and is hereby approved.

On a roll call, the vote was recorded as follows:

Board Member Askin:	aye	Board Member Martin:	aye
Board Member Crean:	aye	Board Member Morgan:	aye
Board Member Iverson:	aye	Board Member Toron:	aye

President Benoit discussed the “Immunization Against COVID-19” presentation by Dr. Eric Granowitz that is being hosted by the library on February 8th at 7pm.

Board Member Crean shared her experiences and frustrations on trying to receive the vaccine.

President’s Report:

President Benoit updated the Board on various statistics from the State’s COVID-19 online dashboard related to Bergen County. She then gave an update on Allendale, reporting that there are currently 85 cases.

She then reported that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is close to coming online and this will help overall supply. President Benoit encouraged residents to get vaccinated with whatever version you can register with.

Board Member Iverson added that another issue in the vaccine distribution is finding people certified to administer it. She also stated that she is seeing a younger age group being admitted to the hospital.

President Benoit reiterated that while vaccines are coming out, the most important thing to do is still wearing a mask while out in public.

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The Board discussed the fact that the vaccine can prevent you from becoming ill with COVID, or any other vaccine administered, you can still transmit the virus.

OEM Coordinator Michael Dillion introduced himself to the Board and gave an update on the status of the OEM Team's weekly situational awareness conference calls. He thanked President Benoit and Vice President Morgan for their assistance and guidance.

Public Comment:

No member of the public came forward.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Health, on a motion by Board Member Martin, with second by Board Member Toron, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

John Gil
Director of Communications

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