

Board of Health of the Borough of Allendale
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2021

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

ABSENT: Maria Crean, Robin Iversen

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Communications John Gil (*via teleconference*)
Borough Sanitarian Kristin Caperino (*via teleconference*)

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Health of the Borough of Allendale was held on April 1, 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 Askin, second by Board Member Toron, with no objections and all members present in favor, that the Minutes of March 4, 2020, Regular 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 March with one (1) marriage license having been issued for a total of \$28.00 to the Borough.

Communications/Correspondence:

None

Health Officer/Sanitarian Reports:

Borough Sanitarian Kristin Caperino gave an overview of the March Sanitation Reports and updated complaints regarding Goldberg Bagels and Allendale Corner Café and that follow-up would occur in a few months.

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Old Business:

Board Member Askin gave an update on the USRA including information on the Parent Wellness Academy being held on May 3rd, the Upper Saddle River Coalition Award for graduating seniors, and Narcan training that will happen on April 24th at the Red Barn.

Mr. Gil gave an update on the planned Rabies Clinic planned for May. He then spoke about Allendale's program to help seniors who needed vaccinations. He thanked the hard work and coordination of OEM Director Mike Dillion and Board Member Linda Morgan in helping get this program up and running. Mr. Gil concluded by discussing the State's new COVID-19 vaccination location site.

New Business:

None

President's Report:

President Benoit gave an update on the weekly COVID-19 OEM meetings. She then gave a report on the Allendale School District including that they elected to remain hybrid schedule for the remainder of the year. President Benoit continued with an overview of COVID-19 stats including cases, hospitalizations, and age breakdowns.

President Benoit then reviewed the studies regarding the Pfizer vaccine. A discussion on the different variants ensued. President Benoit indicated that the most prominent variant in Bergen County was the B117 (UK variant).

President Benoit then discusses an NPR article regarding the stress different hospitals were under based on the number of COVID cases and number of beds. She then discussed this ratio and hospitals here in this region.

Board Member Toron questioned Phfizer's claim that it was 100% effective in children with such a short timeframe. A discussion was had on vaccines and children.

Public Comment:

Sharysse Frasco questioned if Bergen was leading in the State in cases to which President Benoit confirmed. She then asked if schools would require vaccinations, President Benoit stated that she has not heard of that as of yet and that the current age group is 16 and over. A discussion ensued about the legality of a school or university requiring vaccinations due to the emergency authorization.

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Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Health, on a motion by Board Member Toron with second by Board Member Askin, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

John Gil
Director of Communications