

BOROUGH OF WOODCLIFF LAKE

**BOARD OF HEALTH
January 16, 2007
REORGANIZATION MEETING –
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dr. Haas, at 7:45 pm, according to the Open Public Meetings Act. Mayor LaPaglia asked if he could do the swearing in and renew those members whose terms had expired, prior to the actual meeting starting.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Dr. Gerhard Haas
Dr. Steven Sperber
John Frey
Janet Levine
Christine LaPaglia, D.C.
Secretary Fariba Negahban
Sanitarian Marjorie Vanacore

Absent:

Elaine Metlitz
Dr. Mary Clark
Councilperson Fred Singer

The Mayor said that he would like to swear in Dr. Haas, whose terms had ended as of December 31, 2006. After the swearing in, and signing the appropriate forms to be filed with the Borough Clerk, the Mayor said that since Elaine Metlitz could not be at the meeting tonight, she would be sworn in at a later meeting. He also added that Jared Shapiro has left the Borough, and Fred Singer will be the main Council Liaison for the Board of Health with Bob Rosenblatt serving as back up.

The Mayor said there was a notice included in the last newsletter to ask for volunteers to serve on various boards. As a result, he had received a few resumes from qualified people who were interested in serving on the Board of Health, and told them if there is an opening in the future, they would definitely be considered.

Dr. Haas vacated the Chair as Vice President, and asked for nominations for President, Vice President and Secretary for 2007. Dr. Sperber nominated Elaine for President, and Dr. Haas for Vice President, seconded by Janet Levine. There were no oppositions. Fariba Negahban was nominated for Secretary. Dr. Haas said that after having reviewed the meeting dates for 2007, he thought it might be a good idea to move up the November meeting by one week so it is not so close to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Everyone agreed to have the November meeting on the 13th instead of the 20th, for 2007.

Dr. Haas also asked about the Veterinarian for the Rabies Clinic. Fariba said the town has been using Dr. Muller from Park Ridge Animal Hospital for the past couple of years, and before that Dr. Mandarino from the same Hospital. The Board decided to keep the same Veterinarian. Also the same publications were designated for 2007.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the month of December were reviewed. Dr. Sperber had a correction on page 3 to change the wording of cannot to should not in the first paragraph. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the minutes for December.

SANITARIAN'S REPORT:

Dr. Haas asked about December 19th incident related to the high coliform count in pears. Fariba said it was a sample taken from the Senior Christmas luncheon at the Woodcliff Manor, since some people had gotten sick within a couple of days of the party with a stomach virus. Later however, the illnesses were found not to be related to the party. Dr. Haas also asked about the December 22nd neighbor complaint. Fariba explained that there was a complaint received from one neighbor who claimed the other would leave food debris in the backyard to possibly feed the wild animals. This could potentially present a hazard to her dog if he chokes on any bones, etc... Upon inspection of the premises, Erika only found a minimal amount of residue and notified the neighbor.

There was a motion made and accepted to approve the December Sanitarian's report.

CASH RECEIPTS REPORT:

The Cash Receipts report for December was reviewed. There was no activity for the month. Fariba said that there will be money received next month, since all

food establishments have until January 31st to renew their licenses for 2007. There was a motion made and accepted to approve the Cash Receipts report.

WATER REPORTS:

Dr. Haas referred to the various monthly, quarterly and annual water reports that the Board had received. He asked again if Larry Coslow could critique the individual water reports that he prepares to better inform the Board. Fariba mentioned that when she brought this up with Larry in the past, he had said that he would explain details of any problems on the cover sheet of individual reports. Otherwise it can be assumed that everything is within the required water standards. Dr. Haas said it would be better if he could still let us know that everything is under control and nothing is out of the ordinary.

Dr. Haas said there are a lot of reports always received but it is hard to decipher them. Even though the Water Company sent the Board of Health a list of Drinking Water Standards, it is not always easy to compare the information. Dr. Sperber suggested that in agreement with Dr. Haas, Park Ridge Water Company should send a cover letter with the quarterly reports, stating that there was not anything abnormal found in the water. Also in case there is something unusual found, he should indicate the time lapse before the town is notified. Dr. Haas said the Water Company should alert the Board or the town first, in case of any problems before it goes to the media. It was agreed that Fariba should arrange for Bill Beattie or Larry Coslow to attend the April meeting once the first quarter water reports are all received, in order to address any questions or issues the Board might have. Also, Dr. Sperber mentioned how the Standards List is in different measurement units than the actual reports and in order to do comparisons, many of the numbers need to be converted. John Frey asked about the frequency of the tests, and whether the testing is being done often enough.

NEW BUSINESS:

The results of the 2007 Rabies Clinic were discussed. There were 105 inoculations in total this year. Dr. Haas asked about the ratio of Dogs vs. Cats being vaccinated, 83 to 23, and why there are not as many cats coming to the Clinic. Fariba explained that this is a free service offered for the residents, and not everyone may take advantage of it. Christine LaPaglia said that cats would be more nervous in that situation, when there are a lot of animals waiting in line, and it may not be as easy for the cat owners to participate. Dr. Haas asked if the hours of the Clinic could be extended in the future to separate the Dogs from the Cats, and as a result encourage more attendance.

Dr. Sperber asked about the new Food Handling procedures in New Jersey. Marjorie said that in 2007, Chapter XII Food Handling law has been replaced by Chapter XXIV, which is basically longer, 87 vs. 37 pages, and more detailed. The new Chapter covers mostly the same information, however it

provides a lot more description and details as to how procedures are to be carried out. This facilitates the job of the Sanitarian in turn, since every issue is fully explained. One major difference is the hot and cold holding temperatures for food. Hot holding temperature was reduced from 140 to 135 degrees, and refrigeration temperature was reduced from 45 to 41 degrees.

Dr. Sperber asked about glove use in the new code. Marjorie said it does call for glove use, when the food being handled does not involve further cooking. Janet Levine asked Marjorie about how the guidelines are monitored, for example washing of hands. Marjorie said the sanitarian would actually observe the food handlers, and how they carry out their duties. The new code also requires that at least one employee from each food establishment is certified as a Food Manager. Marjorie said she will ask Erika Demir to provide the Board with a copy of the new Chapter XXIV code.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dr. Haas mentioned the storm sewers program, and asked about its current status. Fariba said she could ask the Superintendent at Dept. of Public Works for more current information, and whether there are currently any problems. She said that DPW does distribute a sheet every year about how to dispose of Hazardous Material.

There was a motion made and accepted, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on February 20th, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Fariba Negahban
Board of Health Secretary

Approved by:

Elaine Metlitz
President, Board of Health