

WANAQUE BOARD OF HEALTH  
November 18, 2015

This is the Regular Meeting of the Wanaque Board of Health held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 in the Municipal Building, and called to order by President Frank Riccardelli at 7:30 p.m.

President Riccardelli read the following Sunshine Law: THIS IS THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WANAQUE BOARD OF HEALTH. ADEQUATE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN AND IT HAS BEEN DULY ADVERTISED BY THE PLACEMENT OF A NOTICE IN THE SUBURBAN TRENDS AND A NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE BOROUGH OF WANAQUE.

**ROLL CALL**

Member Riccardelli, Member Bertelloni, Member Van Rossen, Member Vuksanic, Member Rich and Member Stiansen

**ALSO PRESENT**

On a motion from Member Bertelloni, seconded by Member Van Rossen and on Roll Call, the Minutes of January 20, 2015 were accepted.

**FINANCIAL & MONTHLY REPORTS**

On a motion by Member Rich, seconded by Member Vuksanic and on roll call financial reports and monthly reports for Jan., Feb., March, April, May, June, July Aug, Sept. and October 2015 were accepted.

**REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST'S REPORT**

Member Riccardelli inquired if there were any issues that the Board should know about. Gina reported there were issues with a property that had animals something like five horses, fourteen goats it was a little farm and there was a complaint lodged against them They didn't have the acreage and it went to court and they took care of it they removed the animals so that was taken care of. One other things the Holiday Inn Express had some water issues from the pool and they had

some issues with the air conditioning units not setting properly so they are addressing all the moisture issues and they're redoing a lot of the rooms and they're having all the air quality test done so they are really pro-active They have a new management team there so I've seen some great improvements and a lot of communication.

We have Kim's café over at the Wanaque Reserve and they have a state of the art kitchen now. That was something that was under way for quite awhile.

The only thing is Lakeland HS has smoking issues. Cigarette smoking and vaping. We already have five cases that I need to write summons for and it's very costly for the parents. First time it's a warning, the second time they get a \$250.00 fine, the third time a \$500.00 fine and the fourth time a \$1,000.00 fine. They have to come to court and the parents have to pay for it. It's only November, it's a long school year. So that's just something that's happening and worth letting everybody know. Not all towns do that but they said we need your support. This is just for school grounds. That's the only thing that is outstanding otherwise everything else seems to be moving along.

### **NURSE'S REPORT**

When we last spoke we were going to have a site visit from the state. They came and were here for two hours they approved us for the VFC program to continue. They have changed the rules a bit. The law now is that we are not allowed to immunize Medicaid at all anymore only no insurance. A lot of people do not have transportation so they can't get to the doctors and they will not get their vaccine and then there will be problems with outbreaks in places. This is basically because CDC and therefore the States were reduced in the amount of vaccine because the money was reduced. It all goes back to money. So all I'm allowed to see now is those with no insurance or those who could pay and I don't buy things like measles mumps or varicella because you have to buy ten doses and that's over \$1,000 and you don't know if they're all going to be bought by anyone so I don't buy those they have to go to their doctors. The Medicare patients have to go to their physicians also. Primary care providers are supposed to see them. I talked to Chilton on the phone. They even want you to verify the insurance up to the minute. The state follows up on this. Bernie made up a form they have to sign that states they definitely have no insurance. They can't go to Urgent Care, or CVS or Walgreen.

It doesn't take much for a parent to back off from having the kids immunized. I'm trying to maintain things as best I can and get the people with no insurance. I'm in touch with the school nurses, they check the immunization records. So basically I'm seeing people who are just in the country or people who have been here but

have no insurance. That's it. It's reduced the numbers. Member Bertelloni inquired if Dr. Giardina could be the primary care physician. Bernie said no because it's still through the Wanaque Health Dept. and we are the providers. I still hear from patients and I try to refer them as I can back to their primaries. Chilton had a clinic in town for about three months and it was wonderful but they closed.

Bernie had a clinic last week and to justify the Doctor's presence she also had adults come in for Prevnar. It was split between adults and children.

Bernie said there doesn't seem to be any change in the VFC program I can see, I hope they don't discontinue it totally because then we will be out of luck for getting vaccine free. I think that's what it's moving towards. Everyone having their own insurance and health care provider. I don't know of anything we can do as a unit to protest the changes. Member Riccardelli said we're like a canary in a coal mine this is a huge problem.

Last time we meet in January we talked about the health educator from Chilton. We kind of fought for her to stay and she did temporarily but then she went back to nursing school so we have a new health educator, her name is Hannah Sabbaugh, she is also from Chilton. We had a meeting the other day. There is also a new nurse in Ringwood that's full time. We talked about new programs for the spring of next year. We're looking at possibly getting a pulmonary oncologist to talk about lung cancer to start off some education in terms of problems of vaping and tobacco use and that whole area. In January we should have a better picture of what we will do with that program.

The SMAC will continue next year. We did pretty well with the SMAC this year, it was more than last year. This October we did an adult immunization clinic at Wanaque Reserve. We had a lot of people in one day approximately 185. Because there was a reduction in numbers last year at the flu clinic we just had one this year. I'm still giving vaccine in the office for the flu and Prevnar is also being given. I suggest they find out first from their insurance company if it will be paid..

We talked about doing a joint project of doing a male and female cancer screening. We used the library in Ringwood last year. I'm still doing the quarterly newsletters for the Reserve. Four times a year the last one was on Meningitis. Things are busy..

Social Service end is moving right along. Yesterday was Thanksgiving Day baskets today was food distribution the regular one for the month. We're getting more people. You get their information they're all low income, extenuating circumstances, SSI, disabled. Wanaque Reserve community outreach gave

money to help with the expenses of buying vegetables and adding things that were healthy to their diet. I think the best way is just to buy it.

Bernie mentioned that she doesn't have anywhere to store things. Bernie said it's good we're doing what we have to.

Member Riccadelli asked if there were any objections to the calendar for 2016. No objections.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2016.

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Member Bertelloni seconded by Member Rich and on Roll Call, meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Smerklo, Secretary