

WANAQUE BOARD OF HEALTH

April 19, 2017

This is the Regular Meeting of the Wanaque Board of Health held on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, 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 BOTH THE HERALD NEWS AND THE SUBURBAN TRENDS AS E-MAILED ON DECEMBER 21, 2016 AND A NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE BOROUGH OF WANAQUE.

ROLL CALL

Member Riccardelli, Member Vuksanic, Member Bertelloni, Member Griffin and Member Stiansen answered Roll Call. Member Rich and Member Van Rossen were absent.

ALSO PRESENT

Christopher Chapman, Health Officer and Bernie McDavitt PHN.

MINUTES

On a motion from Member Bertelloni seconded by Member Stiansen and on Roll Call, the Minutes of January 19, 2017 were accepted.

FINANCIAL

On a motion by Member Bertelloni seconded by Member Vuksanic and On Roll Call, Financial Reports for January, February and March 2017 were accepted.

Member Riccardelli asked if there were any comments.

Member Griffin said she called Terry with a complaint about a man who walks five dogs not on a leash. Sometimes three might be one on a leash and two not.

Debbie said one time he was across the street from her and he had two of the dogs loose and three on a leash so I said to him I'm very uncomfortable with you allowing your dogs to be unleashed. She said isn't there an ordinance that they need to be on a leash. He said well I have an electronic collar on the dogs and if they go a distance I zap them and that's legal. So I said I'm really uncomfortable with it. Now my husband has seen them. He can walk five dogs at one time. Now as time goes on we will find more people complaining. And also he lets his dogs run through every body's property as he's talking to people. Member Riccardelli said the answer to that is it's illegal.

Member Riccardelli said that's a police matter. Debbie said to her an animal is unpredictable if an animal wants to get at something it will. Member Riccadelli said it may or may not be. First of all Debbie said he's over by 2 dogs if he has five in his house. He has at least two that are not licensed. So he's breaking at least 2 ordinances. Health Secretary said after Debbie called she called Animal Control and spoke with Lisa Perry who took the information. She said she received a complaint about the same thing and she will look into it and get back to me. As of this meeting haven't heard back from Lisa. Member Riccardelli said maybe we should give Lisa a chance to talk to the guy before it becomes a police matter. Ultimately if the guy just ignores it just call the police. Member Griffin asked are you saying if I see him I should call the police. Member Riccardelli said yes. Member Griffin said she thinks someone should go to his home and check how many dogs this guy has. Board Secretary said he has three licensed dogs in town. Member Griffin said there are five dogs. When he was talking to the mailman the dogs were all over the place. Member Griffin said this guy is near Addice Park were the kids are coming home from school and play sports - who needs these dogs running all over the place. There was much discussion on the matter. Member Riccardelli said to give Lisa a chance to take care of this.

NURSE'S REPORT

Bernie said she sent emails to everyone. It starts off with 2 letters requesting a per diem assistance for a nurse for public health and also a secretary for 10 hours a week. First letter went out May 6 and second letter July 12. Tom Carroll told Berne after the second letter it wasn't on the budget and there was no money last year. Bernie said she asked him again at the beginning of this year if he put it on the budget. So Bernie said she went to him in February inquiring what was happening about the per diem nurse and secretary and he said he has to talk to Chris and me in his office. So we made an appointment and we sat down and the first thing he said was when are you retiring. I said oh about a year. Then we went into well what is it that you do. Then he said I will need a copy of the minimum standards of public health so I said okay I will get you a copy. He also said I will

need a cumulative report for the last couple of years and I got that all together. The report shows only part of what I do. I went into detail of what areas I cover and what I do and then I decided to write a cover letter to go along with everything and I've heard nothing. The mayor and council got copies of all. In the interim and after I sent this to him I was out at a meeting and he was in my office with the administrator of Ringwood looking. My feeling is he's waiting until I'm gone and then he's going to have Ringwood hire a nurse part time, social service will be gone and the per diem nurse that will be hired will be paid for by Ringwood. I wasn't at the last meeting I was sick but I understand the mayor thought there was a new nurse in Ringwood. There is only one nurse in Ringwood there is no per diem nurse in Ringwood at this point. Really none of this is up to me it's up to you and the powers to be decides whether this is needed or not as to what they are going to do in the future. I did not turn in a letter of resignation and I don't plan to. What I really want to do is to have a per diem nurse here so she knows where things are, what I do. When I started there was no orientation and I know how that was and I rather not see that happen. Member Riccardelli said when Bernie came on 23 years ago we basically were using the services of Pequannock. We needed someone here all the time, we all agreed on it and Bernie said she'll come here and stay forever. Now they want it to go back to the way it was which is why we had you come because we wanted to do things differently. Warren Hagstrom was here at that time and he wanted to have a nurse hired for Wanaque and he in his wisdom felt that a nurse here would be able to approach the needs of the community much better than just getting a nurse for a few hours from another area. Member Bertelloni asked if Bernie's concern is to orient someone for her replacement. The people are what I care about Bernie said. Member Bertelloni said Bernie does beyond the state standards. Bernie said that his thoughts are I should cut back on social services. Member Bertelloni inquired if they have someone in Wanaque for social services. Bernie said social service is supposed to be through Passaic County social services. Passaic County social services has one social worker for all of the up county area. She covers all of West Milford down to Pompton Lakes and she's there 1-1/2 days a week. Member Riccardelli said we want somebody close by. So are we going to go back to the old system which didn't work. Any ideas. Tom Carroll controls the money and budget. Member Griffin said we really have to go to a council meeting. We had \$29,369 in revenue last year according to the financial report included with the minutes and we can't get a per diem nurse. Member Bertelloni asked what roll the part time nurse would take. Bernie said she would assist with programs such health fairs and flu clinics. She would help out with communicable disease follow up, child health care audits, there are a lot of areas. I'm not saying that I would need someone twenty hours a week it would be as needed and I even said that in the letter. Member Bertelloni asked Member Riccardelli if he ever spoke to anyone as the Board President. He said just

unofficially to Dan Mahler. I think it's time for another talk. Member Riccardelli asked when are the town council meetings Board secretary replied the second Monday of the month. Member Griffin said you have to do your homework and get all your facts because you need to show what will be eliminated because once it's done it's done. Member Griffin said you need to go to a council meeting now, you have to start there. Bernie you have to get up there and give them the facts. Bernie said she's done as much as she can do. She can't see herself standing in front of the mayor and council. She said she sent every piece of paper to them. Everybody got a copy. Member Riccardelli asked Bernie if she had an estimate about how much money we're talking about. There was some discussion about how much per hour and how many hours would be needed for the per diem nurse. It could be flexible depending on how many hours a week. Bernie said this has been a bother to her for over a year now.

Bernie gave an update about what happened this year so far. March 24th I had a VFC site visit which was the state which provides us with free vaccine. She came in and we did well. It takes time and effort. It is also required, if you're getting the free vaccine, to have a backup nurse. All these years I've been begging nurses to please be my backup nurse. Now it's getting harder to get someone because everybody is working and it requires an educational program in order to be the backup person which is about ten hours of their own time for free. For a while it was my son, he was my backup for 3 or 4 years. I can't ask him anymore he has too many jobs. So now I really have had difficulty getting someone for that site visit and I had to have someone otherwise I wouldn't have been recertified and we wouldn't have vaccine free for kids. Now the situation with the vaccine is I'm getting more out of country children in and they need to be immunized more so than babies. Haven't had babies for a while, they go on Obama care and they're fine so I don't see them. If they get kicked off for any reason then I can fill in but basically I'm seeing school aged kids, grade school and high school kids that are transfers in that need to be immunized or they can't go to school. So we need vaccine in order to vaccinate them so that's the bottom line. I had a diabetic screening and saw fifteen people at the Wanaque Reserve, on April 8th we had the SMAC and saw fifty people at \$25.00 each also some for the PSA which was \$18.00 and Vitamin D which was \$60.00. April 11th was Easter baskets and we gave out for seventy children, forty families got food and it was really nice. It was at St. Francis. Member Griffin said Bernie you have all these facts if you were at the council meeting you could give the answers out to the public. Member Bertelloni said Tom Carroll will say she does beyond what is required of the public health nurse. He'll say you need a social worker. No Bernie said that's not going to happen. They got away from that. When Ann Cervino was here she took care of the adults and I did the children and families but it went to the county.

Member Griffin said she thought the public should hear what they would be missing. Member Bertelloni said you're a good spokesperson why don't you go to the meeting. Member Griffin said she couldn't come back as quick as Bernie with the answers. I would be looking through all my papers and you can't do that. Bernie said maybe it doesn't need to come to that. There is only one nurse in Ringwood. Member Bertelloni asked what does that mean. Bernie said that we would be shared. Asked what the mayor said at the last meeting regarding this. Board Secretary read from the January meeting what was said. Some confusion as to what the mayor thought the part timer in Ringwood was hired for. There was discussion as to the roll of the part timer in Ringwood. Bernie said she believes Dan thinks there's a second nurse part time but there isn't. Member Riccadelli said ok let's see what we can do. Member Riccadelli said you have to remember we shared towns before anybody else and it's worked pretty well.

Member Bertelloni asked if we were up to new business. She said she thinks there's an ordinance that food establishments cannot keep their door open during hot spells they need a screen door. Chris said that is correct. Member Bertelloni said we then have an issue with a few food establishments in town. Lakeside Pizza and Café props there door open without a screen. The question was asked what happened to the inspector. Was told she got a full time position elsewhere. Member Bertelloni asked if we are looking for a part time replacement. Chris said yes we're looking but we haven't found anyone yet and until we do I'm doing the inspections. Member Griffin asked Member Riccadelli what our plan of action for this per diem situation. He said he will talk privately with Dan and he will go to the council meeting. Member Riccadelli said he's hoping that when he gets a chance to talk to Dan he could move it that way.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Member Riccadelli asked if Chris had anything to tell us . Chris responded we had a few retail food complaints and insect complaints or other complaints on smoking.

Down on Fourth Ave there have been complaints about a couple of businesses there that throw their scrap on the side of the street. I guess when it was the candle factory there wasn't anybody there to see all that stuff and now aside from the appearance it's a problem. I was down there and spoke with the owner of the company and told him he had to clean it up. He informed me that he received an abatement also from the construction department. So hopefully we will get that cleaned up. Member Riccadelli asked if it is industrial stuff like big boards, sheet metal. Chris said yes its industrial stuff and full dumpsters. Member Griffin asked if the businesses are responsible to get the dumpsters to get the stuff

removed and pay for it. Chris said yes. We have the occasional call about mold. Chris explained the differences in types of mold black and brown. We also had a call about tenants smoking. It's not up to the town to tell the tenants not to smoke. That's up to the landlord.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Member Bertelloni seconded by Member Stiansen, and on Roll Call, meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Smerklo, Secretary