

JANUARY 9, 2008  
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The meeting to reorganize the Andover Township Board of Health was called to order at 7:37 PM by Secretary Jackie Huelbig with the following members present: Rachel Nazarian, Mary Ann Frodella and Jackie Huelbig. MaryAnn Klenke and Barbara Niedzinski were absent. Joan Skillin, SCHD was also in attendance.

OPENING STATEMENT: The Secretary noted compliance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 as being met.

At this time, the Secretary called for reorganization of the Board. Nominations for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson were asked for.

MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to nominate Rachel Nazarian to continue in the position as Chairperson. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor. A vote was called for with all members present voting yes.

At this time, Rachel Nazarian nominated MaryAnn Frodella to continue in the position as Vice Chair. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor. MaryAnn accepted the nomination. A vote was called with all members present voting yes.

At this time the Secretary turned the meeting over to Chairperson Rachel Nazarian. The Chairperson made a motion to appointment the following people to the appropriate positions: Jackie Huelbig to the position of Secretary to the Board; Herb Yardley to the position of Township Health Director and Joan Skillin to the position of Township Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS). MaryAnn Frodella seconded the motion, all in favor.

At this time the secretary informed the members that Township Committeeman Charles Grotyohann is our Liaison to the Township Committee for 2008.

Next we reviewed the resolution listing meeting dates for 2008. Our meetings will continue to fall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month during the months of January - May and then resuming again in September-December. MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to approve R# 2008-1. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor. The Secretary will take care of having the resolution printed in the appropriate newspapers and posted in the municipal building, filed with the Township Clerk, according to law.

MINUTES: MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2007 meeting. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

It was noticed that there was no public present at this meeting. The meeting was closed to the public at this time. Should members of the public join the meeting at a later time, they will be given the opportunity to be heard from.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

1. Andover Regional School Nurses' Reports                      Reports for November, 2007

CORRESPONDENCE SENT:

1. Township Clerk    Memo re Board of Health Membership  
Re-Appointments

At this time Rachel Nazarian made a motion to amend Correspondence Received to add the following: 1. Karen Reed, ACO - letter to Harold H. Goldberg & Co. - re feral and stray cat problems at Rolling Hills Condominium Complex; 2. Harold H. Goldberg & Co. - letter to Karen Reed, ACO - response to letter re feral and stray cat problems at Rolling Hills Condo's; 3. SCHD - notice of violation issued to Harold H. Goldberg re several violations of NJ Statutes and/or Regulations at Rolling Hills Condo's. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor.

We began our discussion re the correspondence re Rolling Hills. The consensus of the members present is "here we go again". For more than 10 years we have been dealing with garbage and feral cat issues on a continual basis at this site. When the garbage situation begins to get out of control, then we know that we will soon be faced with a feral cat problem. The cats will congregate at the dumpster area when the household garbage is not being contained properly. Unfortunately, more times than not, the garbage is overflowing.

We have a file full of photos accumulated through the years documenting this ongoing problem. The history is that once a complaint is received, usually from a disgruntled resident who is either outraged by the mess or frightened by the cats, it is then investigated and calls are made to the maintenance company. A clean up is then undertaken by the maintenance people, but never completely cleaned up. Then they make an effort to trap the cats and they are taken to the township's pound facility. If the overflowing dumpster is not brought to town officials' attention in a timely manner, then there is a risk that an actual feral and stray cat colony is established at the site.

Almost 10 years ago this became a huge problem and the township trapped a large number of cats at a great cost to tax payers. The officials at Rolling Hills as well as their management company were informed that the township would not be able to shoulder this responsibility again. It was the responsibility of the Condo Association and their maintenance people to keep the garbage contained and thus help the feral cat situation to be kept in check. Through the years, when the situation was not taken care of in a timely manner, the Sussex County Health Department would be called in to make an inspection and issue abatement notices. It seems that when they are threatened with fines they do a better job of cleaning up.

The Rolling Hills Condo Owners Association attempted to revamp their garbage holding area in the last two years. They removed the fencing around the dumpsters because it was in ill repair. They had plans on improving the area to make it less of an eyesore and safer for their residents' use. Their renovation has taken much longer than anticipated and at this time they have not replaced the fencing so the area is one big free-for-all as far as residents' being able to drop garbage, bulk and recycling items at will at the site. So due to this unrestricted access, the area is a mess. After the investigation by the SCHD of the site in December of 2007, the notice of violation was issued ordering the Condo Owners Association to completely clean and abate all litter at least 20 feet surrounding the four dumpsters. Also, maintain the area free of litter on a daily basis and keep dumpster lids closed to prevent wildlife attraction. Joan Skillin is making additional inspections to monitor how the clean up is progressing. She reported that she received a call from the secretary with Goldberg Associates and she reported to Joan that the site had been cleaned up. Joan went to the site and took some pictures. She did report that the tires were cleaned up. Joan stated that the site plus 20 ft. around the dumpster area be cleaned up was not totally complete.

Joan stated that the garbage area for Ascot Apartments located right up the street from the condos is very neat and clean. There is no unsightly mess strewn around the dumpster area. We all agreed that the home owners association needs to be stricter with the residents. The residents should not be able to drop off garbage at all hours of the day and night without restrictions or rules and regulations. It should be fenced in, with only certain hours of day and night for drop off. There should be a closed circuit camera on site to monitor who visits the area dropping trash and recyclable materials off and if there are violations, you then have proof as to who is doing it. When these solutions were suggested at other times, the answer we got was that they do not have resources to pay for anything extra. It seems that closely monitoring the site is the only way to realistically fix this problem.

The Secretary brought to the members attention that this matter has been brought to the attention of the new township Administrator, Jayme Alfano and she is determined to bring this situation to the attention of the township attorney for his input and assistance. We look forward to bringing this situation under control once and for all. We look forward to hearing an update on this situation at our next meeting. Joan also stated that everyone should know what their responsibilities are. Once that is clear the problem should be taken care of.

At this time we discussed briefly the feral cat problem at the condos. The Secretary brought to the members' attention that through our ACO, Karen Reed, we have learned about an agency in the county that will come and rescue cats and bring them to their facility to be cared for. They will charge \$100.00 per cat. Karen is looking into this information and will pass it on to the home owner's association for them to contact. They are committed to holding or finding a home for the cats. They will not euthanize them. She is certified and holds a state license. We expressed concern that this facility is legitimate and insured before we begin recommending that residents go there. We also questioned whether the situation at the condos would be considered a feral cat colony. That would make the situation fall under other criteria in the handling of the case. That will also be a question we need addressed.

At this time, MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to file Correspondence Received. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor.

Next we reviewed Correspondence Sent. Jackie Huelbig took her membership oath. At this time, MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to file Correspondence Sent. Jackie Huelbig seconded the motion, all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Report on the Rabies Clinic: We discussed our rabies clinic which took place on January 4<sup>th</sup>. We had a total of 236 dogs and cats vaccinated which was up from 183 last year. We had 185 dogs and 51 cats vaccinated. Out of the total, 100 animals were from out of Andover Township. As usual, Dr. Castimore did a wonderful job for us. Also, Karen Reed our ACO was on hand to assist Dr. Castimore and also to help write the certificates. We were pleased that the weather cooperated also. We had a limited number of dogs that were hard to handle, especially one huge St. Bernard. Dr. Castimore went out to the cars to vaccinate the animals that were behavior problems or ill. We had Eric Mara from our Township Road Department assist with the use of the building. The Secretary brought to the members' attention the idea of moving our annual rabies clinic from January to November of the year. We would be meeting state guidelines and the weather would not be such an issue to deal with. Looking at the calendar we came up with the potential date of Friday, November 21st. Everyone present thought that this is something we should definitely consider. Dr. Castimore was also supportive of this change in date. We will discuss this further at our next meeting and we will have to put the info in our spring newsletter that goes out in April and then again in our fall newsletter that we will send out in October. People will need a lot of advance notice when a change occurs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reports from SCHD: Joan reported that a fine of \$500.00 was due from the Muglia's well driller due to the well driller installing the well without a local permit.

ADJOURNMENT:

At this time, there being no further business to discuss, MaryAnn Frodella made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. It was seconded by Jackie Huelbig. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Rachel Nazarian, Chairperson

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Jackie Huelbig, Secretary