

OCTOBER 21, 2009
ANDOVER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The regular meeting of the Andover Township Board of Health was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chair Person, Rachel Nazarian with the following members present: Mary Ann Klenke, MaryAnn Frodella, James Cunningham and Jackie Huelbig. Adam Boltz of SCHD and TomWalsh, Township Committee Liaison was in attendance.

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

MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2009 was made by James Cunningham. Maryann Frodella seconded the motion. All in favor.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The Chair Person opened the meeting to the public as there was no one in attendance; the meeting was closed to the public.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT/RECEIVED:

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| 1. | Long Pond and FMB School Nurses | Report for Sept., 2009 |
| 2. | SCHD, Herb Yardley | Info on H1N1 vaccine
And plans for administering
Vaccine |
| 3. | SCHD through NJLincs | Message re updated talking
Points for H1N1 Influenza and
Vaccination |

At this time we reviewed Correspondence Received and Sent. We discussed the situation with the H1N1 flu as far as inoculations, when and where, etc. Chair Nazarian, pharmacist with Newton Memorial Hospital, explained that the vaccine is being administered through governmental agencies. Places like hospitals have to get their own application and it is only for employees. The SCHD is receiving their allotment and will begin administering to the public on Nov. 1st in the following categories as a nasal spray: healthy children between the ages of 2 and 24, due to the limited initial supply and guidance from the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services. Additional clinics that are schedule throughout November will also offer the 2009 H1N1 injectable vaccine for remaining priorities.

If you are of the age to have been alive in 1956 and/or 1976 you quite possibly were exposed to a similar strain of flu to the H1N1 flu and although you would not be considered immune to this one, you would have built up immunity that would make your bout with the flu considerably less serious. When all is said and done, cover your mouth and nose when you cough; wash your hands with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing; avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; avoid close contact with sick people; stay home when you are sick.

At this time, Maryann Klenke made a motion to file Correspondence Received/Sent. James Cunningham seconded the motion, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reports from SCHD: Ray's Inn did pass an inspection by the SCHD. It is now a BYOB operation with a cover charge to enter. Township officials are continuing with their monitoring of the operation to make sure no additional violations take place.

At this time, Liaison Walsh brought up the subject of the recent cat recovery operation on Yates Ave. at a private residence. Our ACO, Karen Reed has been monitoring this site for some time now and she arranged for Claws Cat Rescue and the NJSPCA to become involved with assisted in removing approximately 30 plus cats from the residence. Mr. Gary Hennion of 38 Yates Ave., allowed this situation to get out of hand by encouraging stray and feral cats to come to his residence by putting out food for them. A neighbor reported the situation after witnessing the large number of cats inhabiting the property and then unfortunately, coming onto the adjoining property and causing problems. Some of the cats were determined to be sick and the NJSPCA ordered that these sick cats and/or kittens be taken to a vet first and then to Claws Cat Rescue.

The township absorbed the bill for the cat removal which totaled \$3,750.00. After much discussion the members all agreed with Liaison Walsh that there should be an attempt on the township's part to get reimbursement for that bill. The tax payers of Andover Township should not be held responsible for one resident's irresponsibility in allowing this situation to get out of hand. On one hand, it was imperative that this be handled in a timely manner due to the fact that some of the cats were ill and roaming the neighborhood with potentially putting children and other pets at risk for illnesses. So the township acted in a responsible way but now we need to take action on recovering the cost of the cat rescue.

We further discussed the facts of this case which are that there is a question as to this particular resident's ability to pay this fee. There seems to be some proof that he is not in a favorable financial state. Public Health Nursing got involved and made a visit to determine whether the resident was in a healthy mental and physical condition since he was covered with flea bites and complained to the ACO that his entire house was infested with fleas and ticks and he didn't know how to cope with this situation. Further discussion revolved around the township's ability to attach a lien against the residence in question so that eventually there could be some possibility in collecting the amount the township paid.

We then discussed the idea of requiring cat licensing in the township which can be a deterrent to people accumulating large numbers of cats. Each cat licensed would have to be vaccinated against rabies which we encourage now without the requirement of a license. If we did begin cat licensing we would be collecting additional fees that would be held in the Animal Control Trust Fund and could be used to offset expenses for problems such as this cat rescue situation. At this time, the money in the Animal Control Fund comes purely from dog licensing. Liaison Walsh stated that that just didn't seem fair.

The members who have been sitting on this Board for over 20 years mentioned that establishing cat licensing has been a topic that comes up for discussion every so many years. It's true that we would be taking in more fees but there is an expense involved in setting the program up and there always is a question as to how effective enforcing this ordinance would be since it's not the norm for cats to wear collars with license tags the way that dogs do. Adam Boltz, SCHD, asked if properties being overrun with feral and stray cats were a big problem in the township and we replied that every few years we have a case where the number of stray and feral cats on one particular property comes up. A reoccurring location is the Rolling Hills Condominium Complex where there always seems to be stray cats living around the dumpster area. Perhaps this case is different than all others since the cats were taken from inside the resident's house and not just stray cats hanging around the outside of the property.

It was the recommendation of the Board that since the Animal Control Ordinance falls under the authority of the Township Committee that we ask the Township Clerk to bring this to the attention of the Township Committee to see if they are in favor of placing a lien on the property in order to receive compensation for the cost of the cat removal.

At this time Adam Boltz reported that the new solid waste/recycling holding area at the Rolling Hills Condo's is under construction and everyone was encouraged with this news. There now is a problem with 2 bears hanging around the area so the management company was told to call the Fish & Game at the State to see about trapping the bears and having them moved? Also, he reported that there will be surveillance cameras installed at the dumpster area which will go a long way to prevent outside dumping. The residents will have to register their vehicles.

At this time the Secretary reminded the members that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18th at 7:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

At this time, there being no further business to discuss, James Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. It was seconded by MaryAnn Frodella. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Nazarian, Chair Person

Jackie Huelbig, Secretary