

**Princeton Board of Health Commission
Minutes
January 15, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Princeton Board of Health as convened at 7:30PM at Princeton Borough Hall-East Conference Room.

Members Present: Dr. George DiFerdinando, JoAnn Hill, RN Steven Miller, Dr. Charles Rojer, Linda Steiner-Sichel, Bruce Topolosky and Rick Weiss, MS

Liaisons: Heather Howard

Also Present: Dave Henry, Health Officer, Randy Carter, Sr. REHS

Member absent: Robert Ciotta, PhD and Dr. Laura Kahn

Chairman Topolosky asked members to review the “Code of Ethic” distributed by Mr. Henry and have comments and or corrections for the next Board of Health meeting.

Public Comment:

No public present

Visitors:

**Elizabeth M. Casparian, PhD
HiTOPS Executive Director**

**Alex Assmus, PhD
Present Assmus Group**

**Philip Sean Curran
Reporter, Princeton Packet**

**Elizabeth Bidwell-Bates
Princeton Human Services Commission**

**Princeton Healthcare System
Dr. Margaret Lancefield, MD, PhD
Medical Director**

Bristol-Meyers Squibb Community Health Center

Princeton Healthcare System

Mr. Barry Rabner

President and CEO

Ms. Pam Hersh

Vice President Community Affairs

Princeton Medical Center at Plainsboro

Chairman Topolosky welcomed the visitors from the Princeton Hospital Healthcare System and asked them to introduce themselves to the members present.

Chairman Topolosky asked the members of the Board to introduce themselves.

Mr. Henry inquired about the recent open house held by the neighborhood information center.

Dr. Margaret Lancefield indicated that the open house was well attended and a 146 flu shots were given.

Dr. Lancefield extended an invitation to the members present.

Dr. Lancefield gave an overview of all the aspects of care given at the clinic.

Dr. Lancefield indicated that the clinic is serviced by staff from CHOP and volunteers, the hospital received a substantial amount of medication was donated by Pharmaceutical Companies.

Mr. Rabner indicated that the clinic is fast growing in the last five years with a 45% growth and in 2011 and 2012 the number of visits has increased of about 15%.

Mr. Rabner indicated that the clinic was designed to transfer patients quickly to the hospital if necessary.

The locations of the bus stop on the hospital campus are in the center of the campus and the signage was not adequate this is being redone to be more user friendly.

The clinic received a grant from Bristol-Meyer Squibb Foundation to expand the hours of service and behavioral health services.

Ms. Hersh gave an update on the transportation to and from the hospital the bus service is subsidized bus Princeton University, there is also a contract with a cab company for transport if needed. Ms. Hersh distributed some brochure with the information on the bus service tickets are available at HiTOPS for transportation, Ms. Hersh indicated bus shelters are desperately needed in the Princeton area for use by the patients to the hospital. The numbers of visitors from the Princeton area is 25%.

Dr. Lancefield gave a review of the teaching program that is given at the hospital in partnership with Robert Wood Johnson.

Ms. Hill inquired if a patient is seen in the ED how long would it take for them to get a follow up appointment with the clinic.

Dr. Lancefield the patient has to qualify for charity care and this qualification is done in the emergency room and sometime they are seen the next day depending on the urgency of the case.

Chairman Topolosky thanked the members of the visiting group.

Minutes – December 20, 2012

A motion to approve the December 20, 2012 minutes was made by Dr. DiFerdinando and seconded by Dr. Rojer.

Monthly Reports/ Health Officer's Report (December)

Mr. Henry gave a review of the monthly report of the food inspector's reports.

Mr. Henry indicated that a number of the flu vaccine is available and a flu clinic will be held to use the remainder of the vaccine.

Mr. Henry indicated that the inspectors are in the process of changing over to using the Ipad when doing inspections.

Old Business

Consolidation Update:

The Consolidation is ongoing.

Greater Mercer County Health Improvement Plan:

Mr. Henry indicated that Dr. DiFerdinando, Ms. Bidwell-Bates and Ms. Hersh have all attended the meetings; an improvement plan is in place, the hospital will be working on the sustainable realistic improvement plan and the Health department will work with them, one of the items is mental health and substance abuse issues.

Letter from Senator Christopher Bateman – Safe Playing Fields:

Mr. Henry indicated that he received a letter from Senator Bateman that the application made to the DEP was denied. Mr. Henry indicated that he would send Senator Bateman a thank you letter for his help.

Dr. Rojer thought it would be a good idea to fine out from DEP why the application was denied and try to work with them to move forward.

After discussion it was agreed to work with the environmental commission.

New Business / Members Comments

Mr. Henry distributed copies of the Mercer County Medical Reserve Core.

Dr. DiFerdinando mentioned that the introduction is going on at this time. Members of the MRC are given badges and are qualified in various aspect of the medical field.

Ms. Hill suggested that an emergency management committee should be in place this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Chairman Topolosky sent a note the Deputy Administrator/Director of Health and Social Services requesting a meeting with the various department heads in the Health and Human Services and their liaisons.

Reports from Committees:

Budget and Finance

Personnel

Planning

The above committees have no reports at this time.

Reports from Other Boards and Commissions

Environmental Commission

Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance

The above commissions have no reports at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.