

**Princeton Board of Health Commission  
Minutes**

**April 16, 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, Dr. Laura Kahn, Dr. Charles Rojer, and Rick Weiss, MS

**Alternates:** Steven Miller, PhD, # 1 and Linda Steiner-Sichel, RN, MPH, # 2

**Also Present:** Dave Henry, Health Officer

**Member absent:** Robert Ciotta, PhD, JoAnn Hill, RN, Heather Howard

**Visitor:** Elizabeth Bidwell-Bates, Princeton Human Service Commission. Ms. Bidwell-Bates asked about the well baby information and the language interpreter for the non English speaking patients.

Dr. DiFerdinando mentioned that he spoke with Ms. Hersh Vice President Community Affairs Princeton Medical Center at Plainsboro, and the situation was being resolved.

**Minutes – March 19, 2013**

A motion to approve the March 19, 2013 minutes was made by Dr. Kahn and seconded by Rick Weiss.

**Monthly Reports/ Health Officer's Report (Mar/Apr)**

Mr. Henry reported 2 bacterial meningitis cases he indicated that was identified and contained by the State and other officials.

Dr. Kahn inquired if everyone involved was duly checked and properly vaccinated.

Mr. Henry indicated that the two cases were both immediately vaccinated.

Dr. DiFerdinando explained that this was handled by the State and the university and, Mr. Henry was kept informed.

After much discussion it was agreed by the members that any information about communicable disease should be forwarded to them immediately.

Dr. Kahn inquired about the cases of lead poisoning.

Mr. Henry indicated that this was a child and the level of lead was in the twenties and a count of lead in the twenties get's immediate attention.

Mr. Henry indicated that the source of the lead poisoning is being checked paint chips are being tested.

## **Old Business**

### **Public Health Week Proclamation – Princeton Council, April 1, 2013**

A proclamation was done by the Mayor on April 1, 2013.

### **Smoking Ban – Update**

Signs are in and were distributed to the Recreation Department and Public Works to be installed at various locations.

Mr. Miller inquired about the citation on the limits of the levels of smoke

Dr. DiFerdinando gave the web address for the white paper on outdoor smoke levels.

Mr. Weiss questioned the reactions by the Board to emails and letters to the press. After much discussion it was agreed that the executive committee would handle all correspondence and inform the members of the Board at the next meeting.

Dr. DiFerdinando thought that the web site needs to be improved and suggested that all of the Board of Health members have their credentials added to their names.

Mr. Henry indicated that he would speak to the webmaster and give them the relevant and basic information.

Mr. Weiss suggested that the maintenance of the website be checked out before any decision is made.

At this point it was agreed that Dr. DiFerdinando, Mr. Kahn and Ms. Steiner-Sichel

to check the content of the website.

## **New Business / Members Comments**

### **Health In all Policies**

### **NJ Practice Standards**

Dr. DiFerdinando mentioned that he is a part of a State wide process that is rewriting the Standards of Performance; Mr. Henry distributed a copy of the Standards to the members of the Board.

Dr. DiFerdinando explained the goals of the Board. After more discussion it was suggested that members of the Board should wait until the new standards are written.

### **2013 Strategic Plan**

Dr. Rojer reported on the progress of Strategic Planning this is an ongoing project.

Dr. Kahn reported on the emergency management preparedness.

Dr. DiFerdinando indicated that he will have a meeting with the Mayor and councilman Simmons about the emergency preparedness.

Mr. Miller explained that he did not attend the meeting but he had a question about what topics would be discussed.

Mr. Henry indicated that the topic could be about the environment or health.

### **Partnering with Sustainable Princeton**

Mr. Henry thought that it would be a good idea to team up with Sustainable Princeton. Sustainable Princeton can gain valuable points by participating in some of the other activities that can be done, how to be a good pet owner, lead safety and farmers markets.

Ms. Bidwell-Bates suggested one of the things that would be useful at the Farmers Market would be to ask the vendors to accept food stamps this would be a great help to the residents.

## **Reports from Committees**

Budget and Finance

Personnel

Planning

Dr. DiFerdinando gave a brief report on the above committees.

## **Reports from Other Boards and Commissions**

Environmental Commission:

Dr. Rojer gave a brief report on the renovations for PNC Bank in the Princeton shopping center.

The Commission is also looking at the new proposal from Avalon Bay for the hospital.

Mr. Miler mentioned that the pipeline will cause environmental destruction and noted the destruction it could cause the environment.

Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance

Ms. Steiner-Sichel gave a brief report.

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