

**WESTFIELD BOARD OF HEALTH
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07090**

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021.

Pursuant to the rules of the Board of Health of the Town of Westfield, NJ, a meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM on Monday, March 1, 2021, via a zoom webinar. The statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read.

ROLL CALL:

Dr. Lawrence Budnick
Dr. Andrea Marcus
Dr. Elizabeth Talmont
Dr. Steven Gorelick
Mr. Brendan Bertsch
Dr. Daniel Halevy
Ms. Zoe McKelvey—Alternate #1
Ms. Maryann McClosky—Alternate #2 (arrived at 5:50)

Also Present:

Megan Avallone, MS, RN, REHS—Health Officer
Christie Calmon--REHS
Denise Rizzolo, PhD, MPH, PA-C —Communicable Disease Outreach Coordinator
Laura Scanlon, MS, RN—Public Health Nursing Supervisor
Ellen Shelley, DNP, MSN—Vulnerable Populations Coordinator
Michael Dardia—Council Liaison

ABSENT:

Ms. Sharon Dorry

PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING: The Board took questions via chat from some members of the public related to the re-opening of schools.

BOARD HEARING: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Dr. Halevy, seconded by Mr. Bertsch, Minutes of the January 11, 2021 meeting were approved as amended and ordered filed.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration/Consumer Health (Restaurant/Environmental Inspections):

Health Department, Vital Statistics, Animal Control and Nursing January reports were reviewed and ordered filed. Ms. Mendez provided an update on Nagoya and Ms. Avallone shared with the Board that the department was looking into ways to complete immunization audits virtually.

The financial report for January and bills for the months of January and February, in the amount of \$9,002.10 were motioned for approval by Dr. Marcus and seconded by Dr. Talmont. The following Roll Call vote was taken:

Dr. Marcus—Aye, Dr. Talmont—Aye, Ms. McClosky—Aye, Ms. McKelvey—Aye,
Dr. Halevy—Aye, Mr. Bertsch—Aye, Dr. Gorelick—Aye, Dr. Budnick—Aye

The record will reflect unanimous approval for the financial report and bill list.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Avallone provided an update on COVID-19 in which she stated that while cases have decreased statewide, NJ had the second highest number of confirmed cases per capita in the US last week. Ms. Avallone explained to the Board and to the public that while the local health department offers guidance to the school district on COVID 19 best practices, it is ultimately determined by the Board of Education how and when students will be taught. Ms. Avallone informed the Board that there are many reasons why the guidance may be implemented differently across school districts, as each district has special considerations for space, staffing and number of students enrolled.

Ms. Talmont provided a brief overview of the vaccination subcommittee.

Ms. Mendez informed the Board that she reached out to the Farmer's Market Manager to determine the total costs paid by each vendor at the market but she was still waiting to hear back.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. McKelvey and Mr. Phil Round, of the Green Team, spoke to the Board about gas powered leaf blowers and asked for support from the Board to no longer allow their use in the Town. After a short discussion, the Board decided that the Green Team should provide some data detailing their arguments that they are a health concern.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Dr. Shelley provided an overview of the Vulnerable Population Committee and how plans are coming into place to vaccinate our most vulnerable residents.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made at 6:44 by Dr. Talmont, seconded by Dr. Gorelick, to enter closed session to discuss a contractual matter.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made at 7:28 to return to open session by Mr. Bertsch and seconded by Dr. Gorelick. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. McKelvey and seconded by Dr. Marcus and unanimously approved by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Avallone
Board Secretary