

## **BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – July 2, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas McLaughlin, MD at the Senior Center at 7:00 P.M. Also in attendance were; Sheila Laffey, Member; Dutrochet Djoko, Member; Judith Ryan, Public Health Nurse; and, Mark L. Carleo, Director of Public Health.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **MINUTES**

No minutes were submitted for approval.

### **COVID19**

#### **OVERVIEW**

As the Board has not met since March 5, 2020, Carleo and Ryan presented a formal report on their activities during the COVID19 Emergency to the Board of Health. Carleo began with a timeline of events, including the date of the first case, and a timeline of Orders which were issued under the authority of the Board, and the state of emergency.

Nurse Ryan briefed the Board on the numerous cases reported to the Health Department, and the process for follow-up. She discussed the challenges posed by the high number of long-term care facilities in Town, along with the almost 30 group homes, almost all of which saw widespread activity. Ryan was assigned all school nurses to assist in follow-ups as operations were scaled. This all required a tremendous number of hours to stay current with, and Ryan managed to do it.

Carleo then provided the Board with a summary of the work conducted during the re-opening phase in the Commonwealth. The phased in method helped Boards of Health slowly respond to complaints and then educate industry on the changes. This required constantly working to stay familiar with the latest guidance and responding to dozens of calls each week. In sum, our business community was overwhelmingly compliant.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

#### **PERMITS AND LICENSING**

Since the March 5 meeting, the Health Department issued 1 Body Art Establishment Permit, 1 Body Art Practitioner Permit, 5 Dumpster Permits, 1 Food Establishment Permit, 1 Pool Permit, 2 Recreational Camp Permits, and 1 Temporary Food Permit.

#### **VIOLATIONS/NUISANCE REPORT**

Due to COVID, complaint records were not accurately kept due to lack of access to the database, and overwhelming workloads. Anecdotally, he provided highlights of housing issues, and COVID complaints.

## **ANIMAL HEALTH**

### ACO

On behalf of Animal Control, Carleo reported 3 loose dog calls, 5 injured wildlife calls, 3 lost/found pets, 1 dog on dog attack, 10 wildlife nuisances, 3 roadkill, and 1 report of a woman kicking a dog.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### STAFF UPDATE

While the Board was informally made aware, Carleo reported that he was officially appointed Director of Public Health on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business at hand, the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,



Mark L. Carleo  
Director of Public Health