

# **BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

### **MINUTES**

**June 17th, 2020**

**8:00pm Virtual Meeting**

**Phone Number: 712-775-8973**

**Conference Code: 670345**

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm.

#### **President's Statement**

Under the provisions of N.J.S.A 10:4-6 et seq., notice of time and place of this meeting has been posted and sent to the official newspapers.

Mayor Keith Balla was present to conduct oaths of office.

#### **Oaths of Office**

Diana Logan - Completed

Meghana Anandarangam (Alternate 1) - Completed

Nilima Palekar (Alternate 2) - Completed

Harriet Stambaugh - Absent - Harriet's Oath of Office will be completed at the next scheduled meeting.

#### **Roll Call**

**Present:** Bruce Ruck (President), Julia Gunther (Vice President), Diana Logan, Fran Ellis, Francesca Escalera, Peter Savulich, Meghana Anandarangam, and Nilima Palekar.

**Absent:** Harriet Stambaugh

Also present is Middlebrook Regional Health Commission, Health Officer Kevin Sumner and Council Liaison Ronald Jubin.

## **Consent Agenda**

Approval of minutes - January 15th, 2020

Julie Gunther moved and Bruce Ruck second, motion to approve the minutes for January 15th, 2020. All unanimously approved.

## **Health Officers Reports**

January - May: There were no questions regarding the January through May reports.

## **Report of Representative to Middle Brook (Commission Report)**

- Topic covered was mostly the Coronavirus.
- Kevin Sumner is currently covering Bridgewater as Health Officer, along with his other responsibilities. There is a new contract with Bridgewater being put in place. Julie asked Kevin about cost factors that could affect Watchung Borough. Kevin Sumner explained that there should be no impact to Watchung Borough.

## **Unfinished Business**

None

## **New Business**

Recreation and Dining:

- Outdoor dining has been approved for Watchung Borough.
- Mobus field is now open to the public.
- It was suggested that there should be no camp this summer due to this current public health matter. The discussion of other activities was brought up.
- Kevin discussed requirements for public gatherings. It was suggested to provide signage, restroom restrictions, along with social distancing precautions.

Legionella:

- Ron discussed the concern of Legionella within the water systems. It is important to get information out to the local businesses. A new electronic contact list for businesses within Watchung was prepared by Chris Czuba and Shannon Long.

### **Health Officer's Report on COVID19**

Health Officer Kevin Sumner discussed COVID19 data within the Borough of Watchung. As of June 17th, there are 83 confirmed cases within Watchung Borough. 42% have been reported to be males within the age of 29 to 97. 58% have been reported for females.

Since March 1st, 59 residents have reported their recovery. There have been 15 deaths ranging from the age of 75 to 97. It has been reported that 47% is associated with long term care. Cases and numbers are continuing to drop.

#### **Contact Tracing:**

- High risk contact tracing is being done. There are follow ups being completed to monitor the outbreak. There are currently 12 volunteers that have been assisting with contact tracing.
- Kevin has concerns about social distancing and facial covering. This will increase testing and contact tracing.
- The state of New Jersey will be funding the contact tracers.

### **Public Portion**

No public in attendance.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm. The next scheduled BOH meeting will be held on September 16th, 2020 at 7:00pm. This meeting will be held at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, New Jersey 07069.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shannon Leng*

Board of Health Secretary