

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**MINUTES**

**August 19th, 2020**

**Special Virtual Meeting 7:00 pm**

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

**Conference Code: 670345**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**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.

**Roll Call**

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

**Absent:** Harriet Stambaugh and Francesca Escaleira.

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

**Consent Agenda**

Bruce Ruck moved and Frances Ellis second, motion to approve the minutes for June 17th, 2020. All unanimously approved.

**Health Officers Reports**

June and July Reports:

- Bruce Ruck inquired about the status of a raccoon bite. Kevin Sumner informed the Board that the patient went through appropriate treatment. There were no further questions regarding the June and July reports.

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

COVID-19 was the primary discussion.

Ronald Jubin inquired on the Boards budget. Kevin Sumner expressed that it would be finalized around late November or early December.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

Grants:

- It was discussed that grant funding may have been awarded to all counties, but the Board of Health was not eligible. A small training grant was received for COVID-19 response activities which was primarily used for personnel and equipment. There is an increased need for staffing in order to help with education programs, etc., but this is not covered by the grant.

Schools:

- Ronald Jubin mentioned that he would inform the Mayor and Council at the meeting on August 20th about sending out a letter to Watchung residents in regards to schools and COVID-19.

### **Health Officer's Report on COVID-19**

- Health Officer Kevin Sumner discussed COVID-19 data within the Borough of Watchung. As of August 19th, there were 98 total confirmed cases in Watchung. The ages ranged from 29-97. 60% were female and 40% were male. There have been 15 deaths over the age of 65. Commission wide, there have been 1,014 cases.
- Ronald Jubin discussed reporting numbers online. Kevin Sumner does daily case updates; therefore, it is possible. Caution will need to be taken regarding HIPAA.

Grease Traps:

- Due to COVID-19, not all businesses are open, therefore the BOH has not received all grease trap reports.

#### Contact Tracing:

- Kevin Sumner reported that the State is coordinating the contact tracing process. Contact Tracers are being assigned to Counties, who will in turn send out to municipalities on assignments.

#### **Public Portion**

No public in attendance.

#### **Adjournment**

Bruce Ruck moved and Frances Ellis second, motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. The next scheduled Board of Health meeting will be held on September 16th, 2020 at 7:00 pm. This meeting will be held at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Blvd., Watchung, New Jersey 07069.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shannon Long*

Board of Health Secretary

Approved: 12/16/2020