

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Reorganization Meeting Minutes**  
**January 20th, 2021 at 7:00pm**

In order to comply with all NJ executive orders and to protect members of the public, this meeting will be held virtual for all parties. Public comments will be accepted through zoom.

To call into the meeting, dial +1 929 205 6099. It will prompt you for a meeting ID. Type 944 6747 2284#. You will then enter the passcode 305951.

To access the meeting using a smartphone or computer, you can download the Zoom app from the app store for free. You must type in the meeting ID 944 6747 2284 or click <https://zoom.us/j/94467472284?pwd=QU9WSkppVINLWWt0UXVIRFZHD0JEdz09>. Please enter your full name when entering the meeting.

**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.

**Oaths of Office**

Bruce Ruck, Charlene Virgilio Alternate #1, and Kimberly Brown Alternate # 2 were sworn in by Mayor Keith Balla.

Meghana Anandarangam and Nilima Palekar were not present to be sworn in.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Bruce Ruck, Julia Gunther, Frances Ellis, Charlene Virgilio, and Kimberly Brown.

**Absent:** Francesca Escaleira, Meghana Anandarangam, and Nilima Palekar.

Diana Logan joined the meeting at 7:55pm.

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

### **Nomination for President**

Fran Ellis nominated Bruce Ruck for President, Julia Gunther second. All unanimously approved.

### **Nomination for Vice President**

Bruce Ruck nominated Julia Gunther for Vice President, Fran Ellis second. All unanimously approved.

### **Appointment for Representatives to Middlebrook**

Member 1: Julia Gunther

Member 2: Fran Ellis

Alternate: Bruce Ruck

### **Consent Agenda**

Bruce Ruck moved and Julia Gunther second, motion to approve the minutes for December 16, 2020. All unanimously approved.

### **Approval of 2021 Meeting Dates**

Motion to approve the 2021 meeting dates. All unanimously approved.

### **Health Inspector Reports**

December Report was reviewed. No comments or questions.

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

There has not been a meeting since the last Board of Health meeting in December, 2020. The Commissions Reorganization Meeting will take place the first Monday in February.

No decisions have been made regarding Bridgewater joining the Commission. Bridgewater asked and received a 3-month extension to the agreement.

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

Bruce Ruck states that sights are having to cancel first vaccination shots due to low inventory.

Ronald Jubin states that Watchung will be releasing the updated COVID-19 numbers for the public. Ronald also informed the board that the Mayor and Council will be planning a Special meeting hopefully this week regarding COVID-19 updates and vaccines.

Kevin Sumner states that as of January 20th, there have been 253 confirmed cases. The ages range from 9 years of age to 101 years of age. There has been a total of 15 deaths within Watchung.

Kevin assures that each positive COVID-19 case is properly investigated and contact traced.

### **Old Business**

No old business.

### **New Business**

Introductions took place for the two new members.

### **Public Portion**

No public was in attendance.

### **Adjournment**

Julia Gunther moved and Fran Ellis second, motion to adjourn at 8:16 pm. The next scheduled Board of Health meeting will be held on March 17th, 2021 at 7:00pm. In order to comply with all NJ Executive Orders and to protect members of the public, current meetings will be held virtually for all parties until such time when in-person meetings can safely resume while complying with all NJ Executive Orders. When in-person meetings resume, they shall be held at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shannon Long*

Board of Health Secretary

Approved: 3/17/2021