



BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG - BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING

JANUARY 18, 2023

7:00pm Virtual Meeting

Phone Number: 1 -646- 558- 8656

Conference Code: 507843

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/94234059374?pwd=QjhOKzQySXhkQ3RiQ3VPY2swektvUT09>

(DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, THIS MEETING WAS NOT RECORDED ELECTRONICALLY.)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:25pm.

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 Ronald Jubin administered the Oath of Office to the following volunteers:

Robert Riedinger – Regular Member
Francesca Escaleira – Regular Member
Louise Lindenmeier – Regular Member
Diane Logan – Regular Member
Deepika Garg – Alternate Member #1
Kimberly Brown – Alternate Member #2

Roll Call

Present: Bruce Ruck, Francesca Escaleira, Diane Logan, Meghana Anadarangam, Robert Riedinger, Louise Lindenmeier, Deepika Garg and Kimberly Brown
Absent: Charlene Virgilio

Also present: Mayor Ronald Jubin, Council Liaison Paolo Marano, and Health Officer Kevin Sumner of Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission.

Introductions were made by the Members and new Council Liaison Paolo Marano.

Election of President

Francesca Escaleira nominated Bruce Ruck as President, Diane Logan seconded. All were in favor with the following exception.

Absent: Charlene Virgilio

Election of Vice-President

Bruce Ruck nominated Robert Blair Riedinger for Vice-President, Francesca Escaleira seconded. All were in favor with the following exception.

Absent: Charlene Virgilio

Appointment of Representatives to Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission

Health Officer Kevin Sumner gave overview of the Commission and explained that two representatives, along with one alternate are appointed by each municipality to participate in the Commission's meetings held every other month and added that the meeting schedule will be provided after the Commission's re-organization meeting in February. The following members were appointed:

Member 1: Louise Lindenmeier

Member 2: Bruce Ruck

Alternate: Francesca Escaleira

Appointment of Liaison to the Community Animal Response Team (CART)

Kevin Sumner explained that CART is a County-based team made up of representatives from each municipality who meet to develop a plan for animal, care, shelter and recovery after a natural disaster or emergency. Discussion was held but no one volunteered.

Consent Agenda

Bruce Ruck moved and Diane Logan seconded, a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting. All were in favor with the following exceptions.

Abstain: Not present at November 16th meeting – Louise Lindenmeier, Deepika Garg and Kimberly Brown

Absent: Charlene Virgilio

Approval of 2023 Meeting Dates

Robert Riedinger informed the Board that he cannot attend the March 15th meeting and asked that the date be amended to March 8th.

All were in favor with the following exception:

Absent: Charlene Virgilio

Meeting Dates approved as follows:

March 8th

May 17th

July 19th

September 20th

November 15th

Re-Organization Meeting on January 17, 2024.

Deepika Garg left meeting at 8:20pm.

Health Inspector/ Health Commission Reports

Kevin Sumner gave summary on November & December reports and explained the format used to report cases both in Watchung and throughout the towns that the Commission services. In addition,

Kevin Sumner informed that COVID, RSV and Flu cases have decreased. Bruce Ruck questioned Big Blue Swim School and the health requirements for indoor pools and further inquired about grease traps throughout the Borough.

Old Business

- **Ordinance to be introduced by Council – Prohibiting feeding of Wild Life.**
Council Member Paolo Marano informed that this ordinance is longer being considered by Council.
- **Mayors Wellness Campaign - Watchung Walks** – Bruce Ruck gave overview on the health initiative held last year and asked each member to bring ideas to the next meeting that will further expand participation in promoting exercise, overall wellness and community relations.

Public Portion

No public in attendance.

Adjournment

Diane Logan moved and Francesca Escalera seconded, a motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm. All in favor with the following exceptions:

Absent: Charlene Virgilio and Deepika Garg.

The next scheduled Board of Health meeting will be held on **March 8, 2023 at 7:00pm** in-person at Borough Hall, 15 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,
Dámaris Quiñones-Gray
Secretary, Board of Health

Accepted: 3/8/23