

Rocky Hill Board of Health

Minutes of the Meeting on 10/14/2014

Members Present: Beverly Poelstra, M.D. (presiding); Susan Fisher, V.M.D; Ken Rizzi, MPH; Peggy Querec, RN, M.S.N; Lisbeth Haines, M.D

Also Present: Mark Pausch Ph.D, Borough Council Liason; Benjamin Strong, SCDOH Liason

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07, prior notification having been given in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, Chapter 231

Review of the Minutes of April 8th, 2014

Dr. Fisher moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Haines seconded. The minutes were approved.

Review of the Minutes of June 10th, 2014

Mr. Rizzi moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Haines seconded. The minutes were approved.

Review of the Minutes of September 9th, 2014

Dr. Fisher moved to change "Food Distributors" to "Food establishments." This correction was accepted. Dr. Fisher moved to approve the amended minutes, and the motion was carried.

Report of SCDOH Liaison

The Rocky Hill Inn's renovation plans are still under consideration.

Improper Storage of Salt near Wellhead

The salt storage near the wellhead is still being monitored. The shopping center is not storing any salt there presently, but cannot easily move the structure.

Reimbursement of Vet for Rabies Clinic

Dr. Poelstra stated that she could not find record of the bill presented by the vet, but wanted it on record that the supplies were 30 dollars, vaccines were 134.40\$ total, with 56 vaccines distributed for a total cost of 164.40\$. The clerk is currently pursuing reimbursement after a snag with the initial billing.

Public Health Services Agreement Renewal

The agreement is largely the same as last year according to Dr. Masaba, with a 2% increase.

The rabies vaccination efforts encountered some difficulties with acquiring the proper vaccines. Dr. Poelstra stated that she would like the updated agreement to include language concerning vaccinations, and asked for suggestions. Ideas were suggested from Dr. Haines, Mr. Rizzi and others, but no final decision was made.

Other language was discussed, including flu/pneumonia shots and federal reimbursement money going to the County to cover expenses. It was decided to ask the bureau attorney about these issues and discuss/vote on the subject at the next meeting.

Ms. Querec suggested that information regarding hours/availability of vaccinations should be placed on the website. Dr. Fischer said the information was already available.

Board Member Terms

The terms for Dr. Fischer, Dr. Haines, and Dr. Poelstra are finished at the end of December. Dr. Fischer is interested in continuing her term; Dr. Poelstra is not. Dr. Haines is undecided. The composition of the Board was discussed. The current members will pursue possible new candidates.

Flu Clinic

37 people were served by the flu clinic from 10-12 AM on 10/14/14. Dr. Poelstra thanked the County Dept. of Health for pulling the clinic together on short notice.

Raccoon Bite Incident

Dr. Poelstra provided a brief summary of events: A young woman was walking her dog in the park when a raccoon attacked the dog. The young woman attempted to remove the raccoon from her dog and it bit her in the process. The raccoon ran away, and was never discovered despite the efforts of South Brunswick Animal Control. The family alleged that South Brunswick refused to get involved. Mr. Papenberg of South Brunswick stated to Dr. Poelstra that “if an animal is in custody then it is an emergency, the police will be called and Animal Control will arrive immediately. If the animal escapes it is urgent but Animal Control will not be immediately called.” Thus, South Brunswick never arrived as the animal was never captured or indeed spotted again. The proper steps were taken to immunize/treat the young lady, but the raccoon was never captured although a dead one was found in the vicinity. The dead raccoon was never tested, possibly due to miscommunication.

Dr. Poelstra proposed creating a flyer about animal safety to be posted around town, which was agreed upon.

Dr. Haines asked if there was routine testing of dead animals found in Rocky Hill. Dr. Fisher stated that no, it was not standard procedure. Considering the situation it might have been warranted according to Mr. Strong, but was not strictly necessary as there was no proof that it was the same raccoon.

The dead raccoon was picked up by South Brunswick on Princeton Ave.

Animal Control Agreement—South Brunswick

Dr. Haines stated her displeasure with the “inadequacy” of South Brunswick regarding the raccoon incident. Dr. Fisher also expressed discontent with South Brunswick regarding this and previous incidents and suggested that perhaps Montgomery could be contracted to discuss a possible agreement regarding animal control. Dr. Poelstra stated that the idea had been floated

previously but that they were unwilling to contract with Rocky Hill. It was agreed to investigate whether Montgomery is willing to take on the contract and what the terms would be, as they are physically closer to Rocky Hill than South Brunswick and are potentially more responsive.

Air from the Quarry

Dr. Haines complained that rock grinding taking place in the quarry is potentially posing a health hazard due to the dust created. Mr. Strong offered to investigate the various issues involved with air pollution standards due to the complexity involved and return with the information the next board meeting.

Board Website Updated

Dr. Fisher updated the board website with an article on the benefits of hand-washing. There is an article on enterovirus-d68, with a link to the CDC website. Several articles were carried on: one on tick awareness, and one on buying food at local farmers' markets among others.

Under "News Briefs", Dr. Fisher posted a statement regarding the raccoon incident. Other news posts concerned CDC news releases regarding Ebola, as well as a Princeton physician being placed under quarantine after returning from Liberia.

Dr. Haines suggested a post regarding Halloween safety.

Next meeting, Dr. Fisher will give a report about a meeting she attended regarding "animals in the community".

The next meeting will take place at 7:00 pm on November 4th, 2014

Ms. Querec moved to end the meeting at 8:19 PM. Dr. Haines seconded, and the motion was carried with all in favor.

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Respectfully submitted,

William K. Hallman II