

## Rocky Hill Board of Health

Minutes of the Meeting on 2/10/2015

**Members Present:** Susan Fisher, V.M.D (presiding); Ken Rizzi, MPH; Julia Temple M.S. M.D.; Robert Olson M.A. M.D.

**Also Present:** Benjamin Strong, SCDOH Liaison; Bob Uhrik B.S. Borough Council Liaison;

**Not in Attendance:** Peggy Querec MSN.

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm, prior notification having been given in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, Chapter 231

### Review and Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes from the January meeting were reviewed. Dr. Fisher motioned to approve, with Dr. Temple seconding, all in favor.

### Report of Somerset County Department of Health (SCDOH) Liaison

- Licensing:
  - Licensing applications for food establishments in Rocky Hill have been distributed and are awaiting approval.
- Salt Storage:
  - A Rocky Hill resident documented salt run off from the storage bin in a series of photographs. The DEP was notified but by that point the salt had been washed away and no action was taken. To issue a violation, a DEP representative would have to witness the presence of excessive salt overflow themselves.
  - The original notice of violation from the DEP to the Princeton North Shopping Center has been rescinded after attorney review determined that no regulations had been broken.
  - The Somerset County Department of Health will be keeping an eye on the situation as it continues.
  - The well water is tested monthly; Tim Lesko will be notified of the Board's concerns about the salinity of the water.
  - Local resident, Don Geddes, contacted Mr. Rizzi about the serious concerns surrounding salt contamination of the well water supply. According to Geddes, the position of the storage is in the highest danger zone of contamination.
  - Dr. Temple informed the Board that road salt has added anti-clumping chemicals.

### Old Business

1. Health Services Contract
  - a. The Borough Council will be voting on the resolution to accept the Health Services contract at the next Council meeting.

- b. Dr. Masaba sent a copy of Somerset County's attorney's final conclusion on the rabies vaccine; If the state supplies the vaccine at no cost to the county, the county will provide the vaccine at no charge to Rocky Hill. Otherwise we will be responsible for the cost.
    - c. The Board is in approval of the Health Services contract as it is currently written.
  2. Mr. Uhrik informed the board that he has heard that vaccine *was* available by the state for the 2014 rabies clinic but that there is no record that Rocky Hill had requested it; Rocky Hill apparently was not included on the list of boroughs requesting the vaccine. The SC Department of Health is responsible for putting in the request as part of our health contract. The SCDOH Liaison said that they had been informed by a representative that there was no available vaccine, not that the Borough had not submitted a request. Mr. Strong will be investigating this issue.
  3. Car on Blocks
    - a. The council has not yet met to discuss the issue of the car on blocks in front of John Shedd Designs. Mr. Uhrik will be looking into this issue with Mayor Donahue.

### **New Business**

1. Rabies Vaccine
  - a. The Board received a notice from the state that the vaccine used and ordered privately last year should no longer be used for clinics due to reported vaccine reactions. The details of the reactions were not given.
  - b. The Board was asked by the state to cancel the rabies clinic in April until this issue with the vaccine has been resolved.
    - i. Therefore the Board will revisit this topic in March. April 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for residents to license their pets with up-to-date rabies vaccines.
    - ii. The council will be asked to visit this issue in their next meeting.
    - iii. Dr. Maslanka will be consulted for her professional opinion about the issue with the vaccines.
2. Licensing compliance
  - a. The Board is unsure of how many unlicensed animals are in the town due to the fact that a town-wide census has not been taken in several years.
  - b. The mandatory animal census has purportedly been reinstated by the state.
    - i. Mr. Strong will investigate whether this is the case.
  - c. The animal census takers in the past have had issues taking the census.
    - i. The Borough constables will potentially be asked to take the census.
3. Licensing Letter
  - a. Dr. Fisher has proposed to send out a letter about licensing and rabies control that stresses rabies risk and prevention more than previous letters. The Board unanimously approved of this modified letter.

- b. This letter will not be mailed until the Board is notified by the state about the rabies clinic in April and an official date is set.
4. Website
- a. There has been an issue with publishing the website. This issue will be resolved once the proper technical support has been obtained.
  - b. The update will include:
    - i. A section on flu activity this season
      - 1. Related drug overdosing on acetaminophen
    - ii. Measles outbreak in the United States
    - iii. The decreased effectiveness of this year's flu vaccine.
  - c. A more in depth analysis of statistics for the website will be procured for the next meeting.
5. National Local Boards of Health
- a. The Board was requested to join this organization that has a yearly meeting. The dues are \$200 annually which includes the entire board.
  - b. The Board unanimously agreed not to join this organization.

**The next meeting will take place at 7:00 PM, March 10, 2015.**

Mr. Rizzi made a motion to adjourn at 8:34, Dr. Temple seconded with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Hallman