

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

President Cheriyan stated that notice of this meeting held via Zoom was posted on the Bergenfield Website, sent by e-mail to the Record and Cablevision. It was placed on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and placed on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

Dr. Cheriyan
Mrs. Pfannen
Mr. Cabuhat
Dr. Quiroz-Abs.
Mrs. Marte-Abs.

Also present Ms. August, Mrs. Williams, Kayla Williams
Also present several Bergenfield residents.

OPEN HEARING

There being no one present who wished to be heard, on a motion by Mrs. Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried the time for Open Hearings was closed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of February 2021 be accepted as written.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Williams stated that on behalf of President Cheriyan, Purchase Orders have been signed by Mrs. Williams and submitted. A motion was made by Mr. Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Tyco Animal Control	\$3,036.66
Mid-Bergen	18,355.00
Rothenberg, N.	1,750.00
Cooper Pest Solutions	1,097.00
Scott Graphics	420.00
McKesson Medical	409.75

REPORTS

Legal and Finance

"Progress"

Medical

No report due to the absence of Dr. Quiroz

Personnel

“Progress”

Publicity

The Board of Health meeting was advertised on the Bergenfield Website, The Record and Cablevision.

Two links were posted on the Borough Website: Questions & Answers About COVID-19 Vaccines and Covid Vaccine Educating Ad Council.

An article in the TwinBoro News entitled “Bergen has stopped sharing COVID vaccines with town”

Liaison To Mayor & Council

Mrs. Pfannen reported that the Health Department met with Mayor Amatorio, Mr. Gallo and Sue Barker; Bergenfield’s Point of Contact to discuss the Community Outreach Program discussed at last month’s meeting. Mayor Amatorio is very supportive in reaching out to the elderly or anyone who may need assistance in registering for the COVID-19 vaccine. Mrs. Pfannen stated that there are details to be worked out and it is a work in progress.

Mrs. Pfannen stated that Ms. August is working with Joy Lanamman; tenant service coordinator for Brookside Gardens to reach out to all the residents at the Center who are still waiting to be vaccinated. Ms. August stated that other ways to reach out will be through the Churches; Organizations in town and possibly create a “buddy system”. Ms. August also stated that she is compiling a list of residents that are home-bound and will accommodate them when the vaccine is available.

Legislature & Regulatory

“Progress”

Written Reports of the Department

Kayla Williams reported that there was an outbreak of *Listeria monocytogenes* infections linked to Queso fresco cheeses made by el Abuelito Cheese, Inc. distributed from Paterson, NJ. The NJDOH requested all local health departments to verify that the recall products did not remain in retail establishment’s shelves nor offered for sale in any other establishments where Hispanic style chesses are sold. Kayla Williams stated that there was one establishment in town currently selling that product but upon Kayla Williams’s visit, it was all discarded. Kayla Williams stated that there was no report of an outbreak in Bergenfield or Bergen County at this time and she will continue to monitor the situation.

Mrs. Pfannen asked what the status of the self-service bins was for supermarkets. Kayla Williams stated that in January, Governor Murphy re-established that self-service should be limited. Strict sanitizing requirements were put in place to ensure the safety of the people and if the establishment could not abide by those safety measure, they were not allowed to have self-service.

President Cheriyan asked for an update on massage spas and nail salons. Kayla Williams replied that there is a massage spas operating at this time under the determination of the police department. Kayla Williams stated that she responds to any complaints reported to the Health Department but there has been no issues. Kayla Williams stated that as discussed at the previous Board of Health meeting, a letter will be sent to all nail salons outlining what they need to do to be in compliance prior to being inspected. It was decided by the Board that the nail spas should be inspected and licensed for 2021 but waive the licensing fee for this year due to the hardships suffered from the pandemic.

Ms. August reported that Kelley Grippo, our intern is working with the Bergenfield Library to create a video educating the public on the COVID Vaccine. The video will answer all questions related to the vaccine.

Ms. August stated that at this time the number of positive cases have decreased. Ms. August also stated that some classrooms needed to be closed at one of the nursery schools in town due to a COVID-19 outbreak.

Ms. August stated that some of the Adult Vaccine clinic are still on hold to focus all efforts on COVID-19. She is preparing staff to be available for a COVID vaccine clinic in hopes to still receive vaccines.

A motion was made by Mrs. Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the written February 2021 reports of the Department be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email sent from President Cheriyan regarding "State of NJ Expanding Vaccine Eligibility"
2. Email from Joy Lannaman; Tenants Service Coordinator informing Ms. August on the list of residents at Brookside Gardens interested in getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Budget 2020

Mrs. Williams stated that a 2021 salary proposal was submitted to the Mayor and Council for the Health Department Employees but haven't heard anything yet. Mrs. Williams stated that she believes the White Collar Union may have come to a decision on their contract and that a decision may be made soon for the Health Department. Mrs. Pfannen stated that she was informed that the salary & wages would be discussed after the 2021 Operating Budget was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

"No New Business"

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Pfannen asked President Cheriyan on the status of the COVID19 testing site at 1 S. Washington Ave. President Cheriyan stated that although the hours had been changed to accommodate people that are working, there has been a significant decrease of people being tested in Bergenfield.

President Cheriyan suggested that Dr. Thek, who is conducting the testing should speak with Mr. Gallo to discuss possibly decreasing the testing to two days a week if the numbers continue to decline.

President Cheriyan wanted to thank Ms. August and Mrs. Pfannen on a great job conducting the second COVID vaccine clinic during a snow storm. Ms. August stated that it was a group effort and appreciated everyone's participation.

Mrs. Williams reported that she has been signing all purchase orders for the Health Department on behalf of President Cheriyan and Mr. Gallo has been signing all other documents necessary for the daily operation, including vacation slips and payroll. Mrs. Williams stated that although Mr. Gallo has no problem approving daily documents, he feels it is the responsibility of the Health Officer. After a brief discussion, it was decided that although Mr. Yanovich is the Health Officer, he is not responsible for the daily operation and only responsible to provide the services listed in the contract with Mid-Bergen. It was the decision of the Board to have Mrs. Williams draft a resolution authorizing her and Mr. Gallo to sign all documents necessary for the daily operations of the Health Department and consult with the Board on any questionable expense or unexpected situations.

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Mrs. Pfannen seconded by Dr. Quiroz and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Felicia Williams
Registrar of Vital Statistics