

**MIDDLESEX BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024**

The meeting of the Middlesex Board of Health was held on the above date at the Middlesex Library and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Griggs with the following statement:

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law in that the requirements of the Law have been met by the Annual Meeting Notice forwarded to the Courier News, Star Ledger and posted in the Municipal Building on December 15, 2023, and filed in accordance with the law.”

Roll Call

Steve Ember – Vice President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Ellery, Alt. 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Melissa Fedosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rich Gianchiglia, Sr. Alt. 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ken Griggs - President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thomas Harrity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Nelson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Robert Sherr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Laura Steinau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Others in attendance:

Patricia Clemente – REHS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Council Representative, Councilman Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Minutes – Board Member Sherr made a motion to accept the December 14, 2023, regular meeting minutes as amended, seconded by President Griggs, and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Griggs, Harrity, Nelson, Sherr, and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

Board Member Sherr made a motion to accept the December 14, 2023 Executive Session meeting minutes, seconded by President Griggs and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Griggs, Harrity, Nelson, Sherr, and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

Reports:

- A. Monthly REHS Activities Report – December 2023 – Patricia Clemente, REHS, presented the December 2023 REHS report. There was discussion about grease trap cleaning and the re-inspection of Terras Ceviche. They informed Ms. Clemente that the Activities Report did not include the Risk Levels. She stated she will update the report and forward it to the Board Secretary for distribution to the Board. Ms. Clemente informed members of a current baby product recall.

President Griggs made a motion to accept December 2023 Monthly REHS Activities Reports second by Board Member Harrity. All in favor.

- B. Monthly Environmental Statistics and Summary Reports – December 2023 – TABLED – Reports still lack data and information that the Board has been requesting from the County.

Board Member Sherr made a motion to table the December 2023 Environmental Statistics and Summary reports, seconded by Vice President Ember. All in favor.

- C. Monthly Communicable Diseases Report – December 2023 – TABLED – Reports still lack data and information that the Board has been requesting from the County.

Board Member Sherr made a motion to table the December 2023 Communicable Disease Report second by President Griggs. All in favor.

- D. Registrar's Reports – December 2023 – Board Secretary presented the Registrar's Report for December 2023.

Seeing that there were no comments or questions, Board Member Steinau made a motion to accept the December 2023 Registrar's Report seconded by Board Member Harrity and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Griggs, Harrity, Nelson, Sherr, and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

- E. Board of Health Report – December 2023 – Board Secretary presented the Board of health Reports for December 2023.

Seeing that there were no comments or questions, Board Member Steinau made a motion to accept the December 2023 Board of Health report seconded by Board member Harrity and carried by the following roll call vote by members present. Ayes: Ember, Fedosh, Griggs, Harrity, Nelson, Sherr, and Steinau. No: None Abstain: None

- F. Council Representative Report – Nothing new to report

Correspondence - None

Unfinished Business

- A. Budget & Finance (includes License Fees) – Vice President Ember stated that the Budget Committee members, consisting of Board Member Sherr and himself, met to review the budget. The proposed Budget was submitted for approval. The Board is waiting for final approval.
- B. Website – Vice President Ember stated that website needs to be reviewed. A call for a volunteer to oversee the website was made by President Griggs. Vice President Ember would like to add the contact information regarding injured wildlife. It was discussed that any updates to the website should be submitted to the Board Secretary for handling.
- C. NJ Local Board of Health Association (NJLBHA) – Vice President Ember stated that he is on the Executive Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for January 24th. Key points discussed at the last meeting included the allocation of CDC funds. Forty percent

of the funds were supposed to help with local public health programs. Funds were to be used to help small businesses stay in business and to help those that lost their jobs, as well as educating people. He also discussed the new bill that was passed by Legislature and signed by Governor Murphy which will allow the Mayor and Council to fulfill the role of a health board in towns with less than 30,000 people. He stated that he discussed this with Mayor Mikolajczk and was informed that it will not affect our board. Further discussion will take place at the next NJLBHA meeting.

- D. Publicity (includes Newsletter and other outreach) – Members discussed how we can promote the Board of Health. There was a consensus that, if we had better interaction with county, we should be able to do more.
- E. Straight Edge – Nothing new to report. Members discussed the issue with the fence surrounding the business. It was discussed that the fence is a zoning issue, not a Board of Health issue. There was discussion about the possible formation of an Environmental Commission in March or April.
- F. Potential Changes to Chapter 272 of the Code Book for Massage and Bodywork Therapy Establishments – Councilman Quinn informed the board that the Borough Attorney has reviewed and made changes to the Chapter. He will be forwarding the revised version to Vice President Ember for distribution to the board.
- G. Planning for 2024 (includes review of last year) – Vice President Ember stated that he met with Mayor Mikolajczk regarding planning for 2024. They discussed how he would like to see the board proceed this year. He suggested that members think about their specific roles and come up with a formal objective for the Board of Health. Members also discussed that it is imperative that Mr. Les Jones attend the February 8th meeting.
- H. Health Clubs, Gyms, Exercise Establishments (BOH Licenses) – Nothing new to discuss. The Board Secretary explained that we still have to identify what constitutes an exercise establishment. She informed the members that health clubs, gyms and exercise establishments do not have Board of Health Licenses. Board Member Sherr recommended that they reach out to other municipalities to see if they are licensing these establishments. The Board Secretary will be forwarding Ordinance #147-21, **ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX IN CHAPTER 446, SANITARY REGULATIONS; ARTICLE IV. LICENSES AND PERMITS, SECTION 446-11 APPLICATION AND FEES, § 446-11 (e) License Fees** for their review.

New Business

- A. Opioid Advisory Council – Vice President Ember informed the Members that the Borough received a settlement from an Opioid Class Action Suit in the amount of \$17,000.00. This is up for discussion with the Borough Council. They have to determine who has the authority to spend the funds. There was further discussion about an Opioid Settlement survey that needs to be completed. The Board was not aware of the survey.
- B. Rabies clinic was added to the agenda - Ms. Clemente inquired about the Borough's date for the rabies clinic. There was discussion regarding the responsibility of picking up, storing and delivery of vaccines. Ms. Clemente stated that she would volunteer to help with the clinic. She also stated that she would be responsible to pick up and deliver the

vaccines. She further stated that she recommends obtaining a small refrigerator to store the vaccines, which she would keep in her office. The Board is holding off committing to a date for the clinic until they meet with Mr. Jones. There was further discussion about the county's performance. Members discussed that if the County is not performing to the level of the contract, they are in violation of the contract. There was a consensus to discuss the county's performance during an Executive Session at the February 8th meeting.

Public Portion

President Griggs opened the meeting to the public for anybody wishing to speak. Seeing that there were no public comments, President Griggs closed the public portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

Board Member Fedosh moved for adjournment seconded by Board Member Steinau and carried by a unanimous vote. Next meeting will be held February 8, 2024.

Carmen Modica
Board Secretary