MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM
DECEMBER 8, 2020

Mrs. Plantemoli called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Health to order at 7:36 P.M.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Health was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows: Notice was given to both the *Chatham Courier* and the *Morris County Daily Record* on January 15, 2020 & October 19, 2020; notice was posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the Municipal Building on January 15, 2020 & October 19, 2020; and notice was filed with the Township Clerk on January 15, 2020 & October 19, 2020.

Roll Call

Answering present to the roll call were Mrs. Ewald, Mrs. Fowler, Mr. Nikolopoulos and Mrs. Plantemoli. Mr. Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Dolan were also present.

Mrs. Gardner and Ms. Taormina were absent

All participation in this meeting was via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Ewald moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting. Mrs. Flowler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Reports

Public Health Nurse

Mrs. Dolan reported that a long-term care center has an outbreak of COVID-19 that began with a transfer patient, which includes 15 residents. She addressed the protocols for how an outbreak is handled. Mrs. Dolan said that most of the patients are asymptomatic. The rapid test has been used for patients at the LTC, and Mrs. Dolan described how the rapid test is administered. Mrs. Plantemoli asked about communication with family members. Mrs. Dolan said she does not know how that is currently being handled. She also said that the State Department of Health has a dedicated team to assist long-term care centers. PPE is available through the Morris County OEM, and staffing levels are currently at sufficient levels. Mrs. Ewald asked about monitoring for changing filters or using UV lights and other protective measures. Mrs. Dolan said that long-term care centers were required to submit plans to the State. Regarding COVID-19 vaccines, Mrs. Dolan commented on efforts to get information to the public. She said that the Health Department will be submitting enrollment paperwork to be able to provide the vaccine. Mrs. Plantemoli asked if the long-term care centers partnered with any local pharmacies for vaccinations. Mrs. Dolan said she does not know but will find out. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that the long-term care centers will work with the State for COVID-19 vaccines, and he does not expect local health departments to be involved with the first phase of vaccinations. Mrs. Dolan said that there is supposed to be training for physicians regarding COVID-19 vaccinations. She also commented on the reporting of active cases and the need to reconcile the numbers. Mrs. Dolan further commented on cases of exposure to COVID-19 at dentist offices. Mr. Fitzpatrick addressed the likelihood of guidance particular to dental offices regarding COVID-19.

REHS/Health Officer

Mrs. Plantemoli asked about inspections at the local Hallmark store. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that they sell pre-packaged food, therefore they have a retail food establishment license and have inspections. He also said that it is not the same level of risk as a supermarket or restaurant.

Mr. Fitzpatrick reported that he spends a lot of time in virtual meetings. He also addressed CDC guidelines regarding quarantine periods, and said that 14-days is still the guideline. That period can be reduced in some limited circumstances, however 14 days is still the standard. Mrs. Plantemoli asked about travel advisories. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that people can get tested to

shorten their quarantine. He also said that essential personnel from out-of-state do not need to quarantine. Mrs. Dolan said a question came up if people who travel to care for a sick parent need to quarantine, and they do have to quarantine. Children travelling due to a custody agreement do not need to quarantine. Mrs. Ewald asked about a comment in Mr. Fitzpatrick's written report about COVID at Fairmount Country Club. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that there was a report investigated about someone not wearing a mask.

Registrar of Vital Statistics/Board of Health Secretary

Mr. LaConte reported that fees were collected for the following items in November 2020:

5 Certificates		$35
	Total	$35

Mr. LaConte further reported that Retail Food Establishment renewal forms have been mailed out, and applications have started to be returned. He also said that Dog & Cat License renewal forms have been sent out. Mr. Nikolopoulos suggested that the forms should be able to be submitted online. Mr. LaConte said that the Township is not currently set up for online payments for miscellaneous revenues, which would be necessary before license applications can be submitted online. He also said he will reach out to other municipal clerks to see if any other municipalities in Morris County accept Dog & Cat License applications online.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to accept the reports. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Meeting Open to Public

Mrs. Plantemoli opened the meeting to the public.
Seeing no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Other Business

Mrs. Dolan noted that the Morris County Office of Emergency Management has offered an opportunity for residents to get at-home COVID-19 tests. Mr. Nikolopoulos asked if the personnel conducting the test arrive in a marked vehicle. Mrs. Dolan said that the test is sent through the mail.

Mrs. Ewald said that complaints have been received that COVID-19 information is not being publicly released by the Township in a timely fashion. She noted that the School District has a new COVID-19 dashboard with information, and asked if the Township could have something similar. Mrs. Ewald also said that the Borough is giving a demographic breakdown regarding new cases. Mrs. Dolan addressed concerns about identifiers.

Mrs. Plantemoli suggested that information be distributed about COVID-19 precautions regarding the holidays be posted online. Mr. LaConte said that any flyers from the Health Educator can be posted online.

Mr. Nikolopoulos asked about concerns regarding leaf blowers. Mrs. Plantemoli said that information was sent out earlier in the year asking residents to be considerate regarding noise. She also said that Mr. LaConte spoke with a resident who recently submitted a complaint. Mr. Nikolopoulos said he wants to be sure resident concerns are addressed.

Mrs. Plantemoli moved to adjourn at 8:47 PM. Mr. Nikolopoulos seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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Gregory J. LaConte
Board of Health Secretary