

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

December 7, 2011

6:00 P.M.

Present: Anthony Brickman, Mary Baird, Darlene Hanley, Leo Brummel, Carol Chamberlain

Absent: Maureen Adams, Kevin McGuigan, Liang Schweizer

Agenda: Dr. Brickman agreed to chair the meeting in the absence of Dr. McGuigan. Dr. Brickman requested review of the agenda. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2011 were reviewed. Darlene Hanley motioned to accept the minutes. Leo Brummel seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Mercer County Tuberculosis Clinic

The City of Trenton has coordinated a schedule for clinical services for the TB program. The clinic will rotate between the clinics at the Capital Health Campuses in Trenton and St. Francis Medical Center. Carol Chamberlain shared the clinic schedule with the Board. The tuberculosis program for the county continues to be coordinated by the State Health Department and the Trenton Health Department.

B. Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinics

Carol Chamberlain reported there have been five flu clinics. A total of 520 flu shots have been administered. This is a decrease from last year. Due to the ample quantity of vaccine available to the public through other venues, residents are able to obtain a shot at local pharmacies and at their physicians' offices. The Board was reminded this is the first year a fee of \$15.00 is now being charged for residents who are not 65 years of age or do not have a prescription. Carol Chamberlain reported there has been very little negative feedback regarding the fee. The township has collected \$1,200.00 in vaccination fees.

C. Mercer County Needs Assessment

Darlene Hanley provided an update on the Greater Mercer County Public Health Partnership grant and the needs assessment. A project manager has been hired. She is an employee of the United Way and will be based at the United Way offices.

Capital Health System and St. Francis Medical Center applied for a separate grant from RWJ Foundation in conjunction with the Trenton Health Team. This group also applied for and is receiving a grant for a needs assessment. The focus of this assessment is the City of Trenton, specifically a four block area of the city which has a history of a frequent use of the emergency room services. The Trenton Health Team will be addressing the social issues as well as the health issues for the Trenton residents. It is anticipated the data collected in Trenton will be incorporated into the data collected throughout the county.

The Steering Committee of the Mercer Partnership is currently interviewing consultants to collect the data, analyze it and relay the information back to the community. The consultant selected will also assist in developing an implementation plan. It is expected the entire process will be completed within the two-year grant period.

The Partnership is currently meeting monthly. A meeting of the Community Advisory Board is scheduled for the end of January.

NEW BUSINESS:

Health Department Activities –

- 1) Two per diem Animal Control Officers have been hired. They will be called for emergencies when the full-time Animal Control Officer is not available. Both per diem employees have completed both the N.J. Animal Control Certification class and the N.J. Animal Cruelty course. Each one has been through an orientation with the Animal Control Officer.
- 2) The 2012 Health Department Budget Request has been submitted to the Township Manager. The budget proposal includes the request for clerical assistance in the Health department and upgrades to the computers. In addition, in the Animal Control Division, a request has been made for an emergency animal shelter trailer. This request is a result of the response to Hurricane Irene when two private kennels in town needed to be evacuated due to flooding. Also, there was a need for animal shelter space when people with pets were evacuated from homes and hotels. It would have been helpful to have a temporary animal shelter so pet owners would know their pets were safe while they were temporarily sheltered during the storm.
- 3) A restaurant at the Lawrence Shopping Center was closed by the health department in late November for 1 ½ weeks. The owner was renovating the kitchen while trying to continue to operate. Construction activities were being done during the time of food preparation. The establishment was closed until the owner could assure safe food preparation facilities. The owner was also issued a summons.
- 4) The township received an application for a new large-scale restaurant at the Quaker Bridge Mall. The Cheesecake Factory has applied to the Planning Board to build an establishment on the west side of the Quaker Bridge Mall. The plans are currently being reviewed by the health department.

2012 Activities –

Mercer County is sponsoring a free Community Emergency Response Team training at Mercer County Community College (MCCC) in the new year. Anyone interested can check the MCCC Non-Credit Course Catalog for information and registration.

NEXT MEETING: The proposed date for the next Health Advisory Board Meeting is February 1, 2012 at 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain
Health Officer