

**HOPEWELL VALLEY  
BOARD OF HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, February 2, 2011, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Hopewell Township Municipal Building Conference Room

*This is to affirm that the regularly scheduled meeting of the Hopewell Valley Advisory Board of Health has been duly advertised and is being conducted in compliance with all provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Municipal Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and Trenton Times P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.*

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The February meeting of the Hopewell Township Health Advisory Committee was held in the Municipal Building Conference Room on the above mentioned date.

Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and forwarded to the Hopewell Valley News and Trenton Times (the official newspapers) on December 23, 2010 P.L. 1975, Chapter 231.

Present: Dr. Sharon Gertzman, Kim Johnson, Jan Bishop, Alan Thomas, Michael Rothwell  
Gary Guarino

Absent: Kathy Hill, Matt Martin, Dr. Mark Sherwood

Meeting was called to order by Gary Guarino. Mr. Guarino presented a list of meeting dates for 2011.

Mr. Guarino introduced and welcomed new Board of Health Advisory member, Dr. Sharon Gertzman, DO. Dr. Gertzman's office is located in Pennington, NJ and is a full service medical spa. Dr. Gertzman has no affiliation with Capital Health.

The first order of business was nomination and election of new chair and vice chair.

Mr. Rothwell moved to reappoint Ms. Jan Bishop as chair, Mr. Alan Thomas seconded.

Mr. Rothwell moved to reappoint Mrs. Kathy Hill as vice-chair, Mr. Alan Thomas seconded.

PASSED.

Next on the agenda was reading and approval of July 21, 2010 minutes, Mr. Rothwell moved to approve, Mr. Thomas seconded.

Mr. Guarino updated members on Hopewell Borough and Pennington Health Boards' decision to contract with Montgomery Township, along with any implications for Hopewell Township.

Mr. Guarino stated sharing costs unaffordable especially with caps the Governor has set. Both boros switched because Montgomery offered a better deal than could be obtained from Hopewell Township after extended negotiations. No counter offer from the two towns. Hopewell Boro and Pennington Boro will be associated with Montgomery Township. Mr. Guarino estimates the loss of revenue to be approximately \$50,000 - Two towns about 20%. The shared services included inspections, food inspections, complaints, animal control.

Mr. Guarino presented a brief update on the new Capital Health Hospital. Mr. Guarino advised Mercer ambulatory will be maintained at the present site and the neo-natal unit will be maintained at Helen Fuld Hospital. Mr. Guarino advised Capital Health has offered to reimburse

the salary of one of the two nurses currently working for the Hopewell Township Health Department. The opening of the new hospital has been delayed to November of 2011.

Next on the agenda was discussion relating to the NJ Hospital Association Report of Community Benefit 2010 - discussion of Advisory Board actions that should be considered for 2011 related to Community Benefit opportunities for Hopewell Township.

Discussion was held regarding the 2010 National Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Profile Survey. Ms. Kim Johnson, Board of Health member, stated the survey, which is very broad, requests members provide insight and information regarding the various services provided by Hopewell Township, The information will be electronically submitted and includes collecting data and training aspects.

Mr. Guarino reported on the H1N1 Grant for 2011 is \$10,000 per health department. The availability of grants is based on the population. Mr. Guarino advised the funds will be used to update laptop computers, salary for rewriting staff or consultant regarding H1N1 distribution in the event of a pandemic. Funds must be used by June 2011.

Mr. Guarino advised data confirms the flu is on the decline and the demand for the vaccine has decreased as the vaccine is readily available in clinics and pharmacies.

Discussion was held regarding the importance of the Hopewell Township Health department partnering with Capital Health in an effort to properly meet the needs of the community. Board members discussed the need for additional staffing once the hospital is up and running as all birth and death certificates will be electronically generated from the health department.

Mr. Guarino noted the new Emergency Services Building is moving along and making architectural changes.

Discussion was held regarding public health issues for 2011. Mr. Guarino provided a list of reported diseases by town. Mr. Guarino stated the nurses audit all the schools and daycare centers as they must comply with proper documentation of vaccines.

Mr. Guarino reported on the annual notice from the State regarding the cases of rabies reported for the year 2010. Approximately 2400 cases were reported as a result of rabid bats, raccoons, cats and dogs.

Mr. Guarino reported on septic system applications for lots that need waivers or other relief from the board of health. All three applications are problem lots and do not comply with ordinances. A lot on Corrine Drive is less than one acre and is a freshwater wetland and not a buildable lot. A lot located on Blue Spruce Drive in Elm Ridge Park is approximately 1.5 acres and requires a peat mound system and will need variances. Board members will continue discussion regarding septic applications at the April 20, 2011 meeting.

There being no further business, Kim Johnson moved to adjourn, Mr. Rothwell seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Prassas