

ANNUAL JOINT MEETING

HOPEWELL VALLEY ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH PENNINGTON BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH HOPEWELL BOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH

Wednesday, November 9, 2011, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Hopewell Township building Auditorium

Please notify us in advance if you are unable to attend
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This is to affirm that the annual joint meeting of the Hopewell Valley Advisory Board of Health, Pennington Borough Board of Health, and Hopewell Borough Board of Health is being conducted in compliance with all provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

Meet and greet 6:45 – 7 pm

Call to Order by Health Officer, Gary Guarino at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call by Kathy Prassas

Present:

Hopewell Township Health Officer Gary Guarino, Robert English.

Hopewell Township Advisory Board Kathy Hill, Allen Thomas, Matt Martin, Kim Johnson, Mark Sherwood, Sharon Gertzman, Mike Rothwell

Pennington Borough Board of Health - Beverly Tucker, Daniel Boone,
Mary Mistretta, Steve Papenberg
Weed Tucker, Council Representative

Hopewell Borough Board of Health - Jill Reichman

Steven J. Papenberg, Health Officer South Brunswick, New Jersey

Guest Speakers: Anotnio Lewis, Project Manager and
Patrick Cacacie VP at United Way

Minutes for approval – November 3, 2010 – Upon review of the minutes, Mr. Steve Papenburg moved to approve, Dr. Mark Sherwood seconded.

Mr. Guarino presented the following meeting dates for 2012 for Hopewell Township Advisory Committee - January 25, April 18, August 15, and November 14, 2012.

Next on the agenda was a report on the NJ Local Boards of Health Association annual conference presented by Mr. Steve Papenberg, Health Officer, South Brunswick, New Jersey.

Mr. Pappenberg reported on representatives from all public health agencies discussing the various roles of health agencies and what they do and why. Mr. Papenberg reported on the major crisis in public health relating to manpower and resources and the need to provide programs focusing on

health education. Discussion was held regarding members of the executive committee getting more involved by taking on line classes to ensure a basic knowledge of roles and responsibilities of public health and advocate for the programs. Members are encouraged to contact Steve Papenberg or Gary Guarino if interested in upcoming training classes and getting different levels of certification.

Matt Martin presented an update on the “move in” on Sunday Oct 6 to the new Capital Health Medical Center Hopewell. Matt noted progress is being made with providing training and understanding the sophisticated security/alarm systems. The hospital overall has had a positive impact on the community.

Michael Rothwell, noted the hospital is a beautiful facility and is impressed with the careful attention to detail. The Pennington Market has partnered with the hospital with regard to food service operating the Valley Bistro coffee concession.

Kathy Hill stated she was very pleased with the pleasant and friendly atmosphere. Mrs. Hill noted the room set up is accessible, well organized and up-beat environment.

Mr. Guarino provided an administrative report on progress with electronically generated birth records and death certificates to the State. Mr. Guarino advised Hopewell Township anticipates recording 2,000 births per year from Capital Health. Mr. Guarino reported on the process for the issuance of birth records, declaration of paternity, additional fees for birth and death certificates. Mr. Guarino reported on the impact of the additional administrative responsibilities on the Health Department.

Lengthy discussion was held regarding procedures and communications that worked and improvements to be implemented in the event of future inclement weather conditions as we experienced with Hurricane Irene and October Snow storm. Mr. Rothwell reported minimal loss to the Pennington Quality Market as a result of the power outage. Mr. Rothwell noted back-up generators illuminated the store, trailers were loaded with sealed freezers. Mr. Guarino reported on the Alert system, the emergency communication system for Hopewell which goes directly to the cell phone to relay information. Information is also posted on the Hopewell Township Website homepage.

Training session: (See Board of Health Orientation Manual & Video sent 11-4-11)

Discussion was held on the following essential Public Health services

- #1 monitoring health status to identify community health problems:
- # 4 mobilizing community partnership to identify and solve health problems.

Mr. Guarino reported since last year’s meeting the following has occurred:

- Mercer County has released the 2010 Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Federal law required all not for profit health organization to work jointly with their public health departments and partners to on a community assessment and benefits plan due by tax year 2013.
- The County Health Rankings for NJ were released.

- Robert Wood Johnson Health Initiative put out a call for proposal for Community Collaboration on meeting the federal requirements.
- Mercer county health officers association and 4 Hospitals organize and apply for the RWJ grant for \$250,000 with United Way of Greater Mercer County forming the Greater Mercer County Public Health Partnership.

Mr. Guarino advised United Way and the Partnership was awarded on one of the 6 grants on September 1, 2011.

Guest speakers for the evening include Patrick Cacacie VP at United Way and Antonia Lewis, project manager. Mr. Cacacie and Ms. Lewis discussed the role and partnership of the United Way. The Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership reporting on a collaborative effort of eight Health Departments, four area hospitals, and the United Way compiling demographic data, graphics, statistical information on diseases and illnesses. Funding for the project is made possible through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's New Jersey Health initiatives. The first phase is a community health assessment addressing the health related needs of Mercer County. The next phase of the project is a community health improvement plan which will identify major health issues and prioritize specific strategies focusing on prevention and resources to improve health care for Mercer County residents. The improvement plan will be available in December and hosted at Janssen Pharmaceuticals.

Mr. Guarino referenced a report from the NJ Health Officers Association – Centennial Celebration “ A Better State Of Health” which will be held on Friday December 2, 5:30 pm Newark Museum – 49 Washington Street, Newark NJ If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Mr. Guarino.

Mr. Guarino advised handouts are available pertaining to; Set your Clocks; Check your stocks by APHA.

Mr. Guarino advised flu shots will be administered this Monday at Union Fire House at 6:30 p.m.

Lengthy discussion was held regarding food and water safety during hurricanes, power outages and floods. Bottle water was available at Union Fire House and residents were able to recharge cell phones at fire house during the weather emergency.

Adjournment
9 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Prassas

Approved December 12, 2012