1. **Call to Order**

The meeting of the Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission was held on the above date at Green Brook Town Hall and called to order by President Dr. Jon Fourre by reading the Sunshine Law Statement at 7:00pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Bound Brook: Mr. Alberto Torregroza  
Green Brook: Dr. Jon Fourre, Ms. Jean Mazet  
South Bound Brook: Ms. Kathleen Bolmer (7:04pm), Ms. Brenda King (7:11pm)  
Warren: Mr. Greg Riley, Mr. Malcom Plager  
Others in attendance: Mr. Kevin Sumner, Health Officer  
Ms. Karen Wick, Recording Secretary

3. **Meeting opened to the public - no response - meeting closed to the public.**

4. **Minutes**

Mr. Greg Riley made a motion to accept the February 5, 2018 meeting minutes with minor corrections, seconded by Mr. Mal Plager. Vote: All in favor.

Ms. Kathleen Bolmer arrived.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Mal Plager made a motion to accept the February 2018 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Greg Riley. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Discussion of PERS contribution.

Mr. Greg Riley made a motion to accept the March 2018 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Alberto Torregroza. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

6. **Unfinished Business**

   A. **Culture of Health Grant Update**

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that hopefully a web page would be created by next month. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members of the desire for clinical services at
Bound Brook High School but that local participation is needed to gain momentum, which has been a challenge.

Mr. Riley inquired about Ms. Fran Ellis and her condition. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that she was not able to drive so she would not be able to attend the meeting, but that she is home and improving and anxious to get back involved.

Dr. Jon Fourre informed the Commission Members of a mental health seminar at Watchung Hills Regional High School.

B. Healthy Communities Health Grants Update

K. Sumner stated that this item would be coming off the agenda, as South Bound Brook did not get the grant. K. Sumner reminded the Commission Members that there are still plans for a farmer's market in Green Brook.

C. Local Tobacco Control

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members of the new proposed state legislation that prohibits the sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices at pharmacies. Mr. Greg Riley informed the Commission Members of his concerns with the proposed law as currently written and that he has been in contact with Assemblywoman Ms. Huttle and her aide Ms. Jessica Schwartz. Mr. Riley stated his concerns are that when there is a pharmacy inside a retail store, the law would not address this situation. Mr. Riley sent K. Sumner a website link regarding Albany, NY new tobacco control law. This led to a discussion about pharmacists and their expanding role in health care.

Mr. Malcolm Plager informed the Commission Members of the Green Team organization and event scheduled for April 28, 2018 at Bayberry School in Watchung. Mr. Plager stated the participants are vendors. There will be electronics recycling and paper shredding. Dr. Jon Fourre commented on the Pacific Ocean Gyre as an example of how much plastic is in the ocean.

D. Liability Insurance

Mr. Greg Riley and K. Sumner met with Craig Sutherland and Cathy Lewis of Meeker Sharkey and Hurley on January 21, 2018 to discuss the liability insurance for the Commission. Commission Members would most likely be covered under their town’s general liability policy if they were to be sued. At the meeting, two options were discussed regarding JIF (Joint Insurance Fund) coverage of the Commission; to be covered under Watchung JIF or have Commission become a member. Mr. Riley did not know if any money would be saved but felt the Commission would be getting better insurance coverage.
E. Appointment of Finance and Budget Committee for 2018 (need Watchung representative)

This item was tabled, as no Watchung Commission Members were present. K. Sumner will inquire at the Watchung Board of Health meeting.

F. Annual Report

K. Sumner sent the report electronically to the Commission Members. K. Sumner stated that the report is completed as required by the State and that the Commission does their own report that is distributed to the public, biennially. Commission Members discussed areas in the report such as potable wells, drinking water safety, and Retail Food Establishment Safety. This led to a discussion of current and past E coli outbreaks and disease investigations.

7. New Business

A. National Public Health Week- Panelist

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that he was asked to be a panelist at the 23rd Annual Public Health Symposium at Rutgers. He informed the Commission Members that the focus of the symposium was on workforce development and community change. He stated that participants were encouraged to look at public health and healthcare through a different, non-traditional lens.

B. Annual Meeting

Commission Members discussed several topics for the annual meeting focusing on global health initiatives or city public health. Mr. Greg Riley made a motion to have an annual meeting, seconded by Mr. Malcolm Plager. Vote: All in favor.

C. Bound Brook Proposal

Mr. Alberto Torregroza stated that the Administrator of Bound Brook is requesting a proposal from the Commission and has already gotten a proposal from Somerset County for Health Services. Mr. Torregroza stated that the previous year the same situation had happened and that Bound Brook Board of Health was able to retain the MBRHC for health services with a contract that stated which services would be provided. Mr. Torregroza will keep the Commission updated and stated that Bound Brook Board of Health is happy with the services provided by the Commission.

8. Addendum

A. Financial Disclosure Statements
K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that he will be sending the website link. Commission Members will need to fill out the Financial Disclosure Form by April 30, 2018.

B. Vaccine and Religious Exemptions

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that a proposed state bill would further restrict religious exemptions. K. Sumner stated that three years ago the Commission passed a Resolution regarding vaccinations. K. Sumner revised the Resolution that supports this bill with current statistics and presented the Resolution to the Commission. Mr. Greg Riley made a motion to adopt the amended Resolution, seconded by Ms. Kathleen Bolmer. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

C. Shingles Vaccine

Commission Members discussed the new vaccine (Shingrix) as compared to the old vaccine (Zostavax). The new vaccine (Shingrix) is made of a killed virus and is given in 2 doses. It is reported to be more effective and last longer. Mr. Greg Riley gave three articles to K. Sumner regarding the shingles vaccine to be sent electronically to Commission Members.

K. Sumner announced that the next meeting will be Monday June 11, 2018.

There being no further business Mr. Greg Riley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27pm, seconded by Mr. Malcolm Plager. Vote: All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Wick, Recording Secretary