Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission
Meeting
October 2, 2017

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 (7:38pm)
South Bound Brook: Ms. Kathleen Bolmer
Warren: Mr. Greg Riley, Mr. Malcolm Plager
Watchung: Ms. Fran Ellis (7:10pm)

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

4. Minutes
Ms. Fran Ellis arrived.

Mr. Riley made a motion to approve the June 2, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected, seconded by Dr. Jon Fourre. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

5. Treasurer’s Reports- June, July, August and September
Mr. Malcom Plager made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Reports for June, July, August and September 2017 as presented, seconded by Ms. Fran Ellis. Vote: All in favor.

Discussion of worker’s compensation policy audit and mileage reimbursement rate was had.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Culture of Health Grant Update- Bound Brook, South Bound Brook.
   a) Contract with Graduate Student

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members of the resource directory that the student has been contracted to create for the Commission. The student will create a spreadsheet, this spreadsheet will later be converted into a website and a phone app. K. Sumner stated that the student has been contracted for 300 hours over the next four months. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that the Commission will pay the student and then be reimbursed by RWJ Hospital, and he would be collecting a 10% administrative fee from the Hospital. Mr. Riley questioned if this contracted student was considered an employee. This led to a discussion of possible increase in the worker compensation insurance.
Commission Members were updated on Bound Brook Board of Health position in the Commission and stated that the Town did hear a proposal from Somerset County earlier in the year to provide health services. They chose to stay with the Commission following this proposal.

B. Healthy Communities Grant Update - Green Brook.

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that Green Brook had hosted a farmer’s market on Tuesdays over the summer. K. Sumner was uncertain if the farmer’s market would take place next year. K. Sumner was optimistic that Green Brook would be adopting a resolution in support of complete streets by the end of the year. K. Sumner stated that the grant money would be used for bike racks in the Township.

7. New Business

A. Rabid Skunk - Green Brook.

a) Rabies Clinics scheduled - K. Sumner emailed the days and times in the packet to Commission Members

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that two dogs were exposed to a rabid skunk. The Commission sent out press releases to notify the community. The proper protocols were followed and the dogs were house quarantined. Ms. Jean Mazet expressed her concerns with house pets contacting rabies and wanted the Commission to take a more aggressive approach to inform residents that rabies is alive and well in NJ. Ms. Jean Mazet made a motion to have the Commission increase their actions with regards to informing the public of rabies. This motion was not seconded.

B. Health Communities Grant - South Bound Brook

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that the historical Abraham Staats House grounds will be used as the potential site for a community garden with funding from the Healthy Communities Grant, if received.

C. Lead Regulations amended September 18, 2017

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that the NJ guidelines have been reduced from 10 micrograms per deciliter of lead in the blood to 5 micrograms per deciliter of lead in the blood which follows the current CDC guidelines. K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that there most likely will be an increase in cases which will need to be investigated. K. Sumner stated that probably Bound Brook would see the largest increase in lead cases due to the age of the homes. Commission Members also discussed how the lead contamination in Flint, Michigan developed.

D. Accreditation - Statewide activity

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that seven or eight Boards of Health have applied for accreditation and more are moving forward. The State Health Department and two local departments have received accreditation status.

E. 2018 Budget

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that he will be emailing an electronic survey so the Finance Committee can meet at the end of October.
8. Addendum

A. Gun Violence as Public Health Emergency

Dr. Jon Fourre informed the Commission Members of the article in the New England Journal of Medicine that stated gun violence is a public health emergency. K. Sumner will email a copy of the NACCHO Policy on firearms to Commission Members so that the Commission can draft a Resolution to NJ Senators stating their position on gun violence as a public health emergency.

B. Workman’s Compensation Policy

K. Sumner, Dr. Jon Fourre and Mr. Greg Riley will schedule a meeting with the insurance representative to talk about the gap in the bodily injury coverage and also analyze the coverage to make sure Commission Members are covered.

There being no further business Mr. Malcom Plager made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm, seconded by Ms. Fran Ellis. Vote: All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Wick, Recording Secretary