

Middle-Brook Regional Health Commission  
Meeting  
December 2, 2019

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 Mr. Greg Riley by reading the Sunshine Law Statement at 7:00pm

2. Roll Call

Green Brook: Dr. Jon Fourre, Ms. Jean Mazet (7:12pm)  
South Bound Brook: Ms. Kathleen Bolmer  
Warren: Mr. Greg Riley, Mr. Malcom Plager, Ms. Laura Burger  
Watchung: Mr. Ron Jubin  
Others in attendance: Mr. Kevin Sumner, Health Officer  
Ms. Karen Wick, Recording Secretary

3. Public Portion

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

4. Minutes

Mr. Ron Jubin made a motion to accept the October 7, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Dr. Jon Fourre. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

5. Treasurer's Report- October and November 2019

Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to approve the October Treasurer's Report, seconded by Mr. Malcom Plager. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

Discussion of payment to State Treasury- for license renewal

There was no description available for the revenue amount of \$5.98. [Note this was interest accrued for the month on the checking account balance]

November Treasurer's Report

Discussion of Gov. Connection- K Sumner explained this was company used to replace laptop and docking station.

Ms. Jean Mazet arrived (7:12pm)

Mr. Ron Jubin made a motion to approve the November Treasurer's Report, seconded by Dr. Jon Fourre. Vote: All in favor. Motion passed.

## 6. Unfinished Business

### A. Culture of Health Update

Mr. Kevin Sumner informed the Commission Members that an application was made to Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a prize, not a grant, based on the work done for this grant in South Bound Brook and Bound Brook. The application has passed the first screening step, the second step is to submit a five page essay of the details and work of the grant, and also submit a video. Then if accepted as a finalist, there would be a site visit. K. Sumner stated there have only been three other applicants from New Jersey who had passed the first stage: Trenton, Patterson and Jersey City. K. Sumner stated that he is not representing Bound Brook, only South Bound Brook, as part of the collaboration.

### B. NACCHO Update

K. Sumner had no updates at this time.

### C. Bound Brook Transition

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that he had contacted the State and is waiting for a response before contacting an attorney. K. Sumner had spoken to a contact in the Office of Local Public Health. Mr. Riley stated that the next step would be to make an appointment with the Mayor of Bound Brook.

### D. Tobacco Control, Pending Legislation

President Mr. Riley updated the Commission Members that:

Legislation# A5922-Increasing penalties of illegal sales of tobacco has been referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Legislation# S1947 -Prohibiting sale of menthol cigarettes has been referred to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Legislation# A5923- Requiring licensing requirements for vaping establishments has been referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Legislation# A3178- Prohibiting sale of menthol cigarettes and flavored electronic smoking devices has been referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Legislation# S3265- Prohibiting sales of flavored electronic devices and related products has been referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

Commission Members discussed that Jersey City is the 1st town in NJ to ban flavored e cigarettes, but that are bills at the state level, as noted above, to do the same.

### E. Communicable Diseases

K. Sumner stated that flu season has started and typically the earlier the season starts the longer it lasts. Dr. Jon Fourre read from the CDC website regarding strain of virus and coverage of vaccine.

#### F. By Laws

K. Sumner will check with other similar commissions, this will be revised next year.

#### G. 2020 Budget

K. Sumner distributed the 2020 Budget, he explained that the Health Benefits has been reduced since he withdrew from the Commission Health Insurance as he will be covered on his wife's health insurance policy. There will be a 2% salary increase, PERS was reduced by \$500. K. Sumner explained that the budget is divided by the four towns and based primarily on workload and population densities. Commission Members discussed COAH and new construction in Warren and Watchung. Commission Members discussed the reimbursement of health insurance. Mr. Malcom Plager made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget as presented, seconded by Dr. Jon Fourre. Vote: Mr. Ron Jubin-yes, Mr. Greg Riley-yes, Ms. Kathleen Bolmer-yes, Ms. Laura Burger-yes, Dr. Jon Fourre-yes, Mr. Malcom Plager-yes, Ms. Jean Mazet-abstain. Motion passed.

Commission Members discussed the reimbursement of Health Insurance Benefits, the Commission Members decided to approve and pass a Resolution at the 2020 Reorganization Meeting. Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to approve reimbursement of Health Insurance Benefits to Kevin Sumner pursuant to state statute to be 25% of the Commission's saving or \$5,000, whichever is less, to be paid quarterly, seconded by Ms. Jean Mazet. Vote: Mr. Ron Jubin-yes, Mr. Greg Riley-yes, Ms. Kathleen Bolmer-yes, Ms. Laura Burger-yes, Dr. Jon Fourre-yes, Mr. Malcom Plager-yes, Ms. Jean Mazet-abstain. Motion passed.

#### 7. New Business

##### A. 2020 NJDEP Radon Grant \$2000.00

K. Sumner informed the Commission Members that he applied for the grant and received it on the same day. The radon kits will be free on a first come first served basis.

##### B. K. Sumner to receive NJLBHA Health Officer of the Year Award

K. Sumner showed the award to the Commission Members. The Commission Members suggested that a write up of K. Sumner award should be included in Warren's quarterly publication.

##### C. K. Sumner appointed to NJ Public Health Licensing and Examination Board.

K. Sumner explained how he had previously been on this Board and was reappointed as they are restructuring the appointments.

##### D. K. Sumner appointed to Board of NJ Public Health Association

K. Sumner explained how he was appointed to NJ Public Health Association, this association has a broad member basis.

#### 8. Addendum to Agenda.

##### A. Candida auris- fungal disease

Commission Members discussed Candida auris - a drug resistant fungal disease, which often attacks immune compromised. It is not yet a reportable disease by regulation.

B. Life Expectancy

Commission Members discussed an article in Journal of American Medical Association describing that life expectancy in the United States has declined for the third year in a row. Commission Members discussed reasons such as opioids, suicides and violent deaths.

C. Immunization Legislation

K. Sumner distributed a copy of legislation amending exemptions from mandatory immunizations. He informed Commission Members of the hearing on December 12, 2019 in Trenton. Dr. Jon Fourre commented that there were 19 confirmed cases of measles in NJ.

There being no further business Dr. Jon Fourre made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36pm, seconded by Ms. Kathleen Bolmer. Vote: All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Wick, Recording Secretary