

CITY OF ENGLEWOOD

BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING

January 13, 2016

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Health, City of Englewood, Bergen County, was called to order at 8:08 p.m. by JoEllen Bostick, President, Board of Health.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

JoEllen Bostick, President; Dr. Lisa Wisotsky, Vice President, Daniel Daniel; and Dr. Ketsia Alerte Sadler.

ABSENT/with apology:

Bertha-Nora Acosta; Stephanie Davis; and Dr. Aliza Solomon.

ALSO PRESENT:

James Fedorko, Director, Health Services/Health Officer/Secretary to the Board; William C. Soukas, Esq., Board of Health Attorney; and Janet Hart, Confidential Executive Secretary.

Mr. Fedorko read the Open Public Meetings Statement. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. A. Items for Approval

Motion to approve 2. A. i. (Minutes of December 9, 2015 Meeting (Open/Closed); 2. A. ii. (Receipts-December, 2015-\$12,852.00); 2. A. iii. (Bills-December, 2015-\$10,390.96); 2. A. iv. (Employee Reports-December, 2015); and 2. A. v. (Communications, December, 2015).

Motion to approve Items 2. A. i. – v. was made by Dr. Wisotsky, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

2. B. Retail Licenses

Mr. Fedorko stated that there were three licenses to be approved, as follows: Tasti Delit, Angie's Pastries, LLC, and Space Odyssey. He said that there had not been any written or verbal objection to the approval of these licenses. Motion to approve retail licenses for December, 2015 was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

2. C. i. Board Liaison Reports
ii. Committee Reports

There were no Board Reports for the month of December, 2015.

ORDINANCES

3. 16-01 Revision of Health Code, Chapter 4, Section 4-2, "Keeping or slaughtering of fowl prohibited." (Introduction)

Mr. Soukas read the Resolution to Introduce Ordinance 16-01, entitled "An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4 of the Health Code of the City of Englewood, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, "Animals," to revise Article 2, "Fowl."

Motion to read the ordinance by title only and introduce Ordinance No. 16-01 was made by Dr. Wisotsky, and seconded by Mr. Daniel. Motion was approved 4-0.

4. 16-02 Public Posting of Inspection Placards (Introduction)

Motion to read Ordinance No. 16-02 by title only was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

Mr. Soukas read the Resolution to Introduce Ordinance 16-02, entitled "An Ordinance Revising Chapter 8 of the Health Code of the City of Englewood, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, 'Licenses or Permits.'"

Motion to introduce Ordinance 16-02 was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

RESOLUTIONS

5. R16-01 Appointment of Board of Health Attorney

Mr. Fedorko read Resolution R16-01, appointing William Soukas, Esq., of Nowell, P.A., as Board of Health Attorney for a period of one (1) year, commencing January 1, 2016, in its entirety. Motion to approve Resolution R16-01 was made by Dr. Sadler, and seconded by Mr. Daniel. Motion was approved 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

6. NJ Well Program

Mr. Fedorko reported that a New Jersey Wellness meeting was being planned in April for City of Englewood employees at the new firehouse. He stated that if 75 insurance holders attend the meeting, the City would save 1% on its health insurance.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Commendation – Dr. Richard N. Pierson – 50 years of service

Since Dr. Pierson had not yet arrived, the Board proceeded to the next item on the Agenda.

8. Other Business

Mr. Daniel reported that the Stigma-Free Task Force had a meeting at Englewood Hospital and Medical Center on January 9, 2016, which was well attended. He said a town hall meeting with a special speaker is scheduled for March 31, 2016, at the Auditorium in Englewood Hospital and Medical Center.

Mr. Fedorko stated that Englewood Hospital had donated \$3,000 for the program, and that would help with the cost of printing promotional material and payment to the guest speaker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to open the time for public comment was made by Dr. Sadler, and seconded by Mr. Daniel. Motion was approved 4-0.

Nellie Bobe, 376 Orchard St.

Ms. Bobe requested more information on the Stigma-Free Task Force, and what the funds requested from the Friends of the Englewood Health Department would be used for.

Mr. Fedorko replied that funds had been requested to help with the cost of making a banner, and the costs involved with putting one up and taking it down, which are considerable.

Mr. Daniel explained that the goal of the banner is to create an awareness in the City, which is happening nation-wide, and eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness.

Charlotte Bennett Schoen, 337 Audubon Rd.

Ms. Schoen asked if there are recommendations that go along with the concept of Stigma-Free that people could use as guidelines. She also thinks the City could act jointly with the schools in this endeavor.

She said her daughter lives in Portland, and each family is allowed to keep three chickens, which she is in favor of.

Tasha Urbanowski, Englewood

Ms. Urbanowski thanked the Board for considering the ordinance revising the Health Code, Chapter 4, Section 4-2, "Keeping or slaughtering of fowl prohibited." She hopes the Board will adopt the changes which would allow chickens to be raised in the schools, because it gives children the opportunity to learn where their food comes from, and consider the life/nutrient cycle.

Sandy Greenberg, Liberty Rd.

Ms. Greenberg commented that her granddaughter in New Hampshire raises chickens in her back yard, and has a wire mesh covering to keep the chickens from getting loose. She thinks it would be nice to allow people in Englewood to raise chickens, provided that there are laws to prevent them from running loose.

Joshua Landa, 435 Whitewood Rd.

Mr. Landa agreed with changes to the ordinance to allow chickens to be kept in Englewood, provided they are kept in a responsible manner, in an enclosed environment, and roosters are prevented from making noise. He said it is now allowed in many of the neighboring towns, and the eggs from these chickens are better and healthier than the eggs of chickens kept in factories, where they can't turn or move.

Tasha Urbanowski

Ms. Urbanowski asked when this ordinance would be discussed further. Mr. Soukas answered it would be discussed again at the February 10 Board of Health meeting.

Motion to close the time for public comment was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

Mr. Soukas requested a motion to return to Item #7: Commendation – Dr. Richard Pierson. Motion was made by Mr. Daniel.

Ms. Bostick, on behalf of the Englewood Health Department, presented Dr. Richard N. Pierson, Jr. with a plaque honoring him for more than 50 years of dedicated service to the City of Englewood and the Englewood Health Department. Dr. Pierson spoke about his many years in Englewood, the various changes it had gone through, and how the goals of the Englewood Health Department had evolved over the years. He said he and his wife would be moving to Massachusetts shortly, but that he would continue on the Admissions Committee of Columbia University, so he would be back from time to time. He invited those present to an event the coming weekend at St. Paul's Church to say goodbye to friends and acquaintances, and thanked the Health Department for its contributions to the Englewood community.

Members of the Englewood Board of Health, Health Department, and public thanked Dr. Pierson for all he had done for them personally and for the City of Englewood.

Motion to go into Closed Session was made by Mr. Daniel, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. Motion was approved 4-0.

Mr. Soukas then read the Closed Session Resolution, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey permits the public to be excluded from certain matters to be discussed by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of the City of Englewood desires to discuss Smoke, Inc. and Sofia Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, these matters are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussions; and

WHEREAS, minutes will be taken during the closed session, and a summary of the minutes will be made available to the public by February 10, 2016, or upon approval of the minutes, and once the need for confidentiality no longer exists the minutes will be made available to the public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Health of the City of Englewood, that the public be excluded, since these matters, as set forth above, are ones which permit the exclusion of the public from such discussion: pending or anticipated litigation.

(Closed Session)

The Board discussed the anticipated litigation with Smoke, Inc.

(Open Session)

Mr. Fedorko stated that there were several people invited to the next Board meeting to discuss the "Fowl Ordinance" changes, including an expert on the subject from Wayne, NJ. The Board agreed it is important to hear both the pro's and the con's.

The possibility of a Board member participating in a meeting electronically was also discussed. Mr. Soukas said if the Board was going to allow this kind of participation, there should be a formal policy stating that in the Bylaws, with any restrictions clearly stated. He agreed to investigate what other Boards are doing in that respect.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Wisotsky, and seconded by Dr. Sadler. All members voted "Aye," in favor. Motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Fedorko
Secretary to the Board
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