

**Board of Health
Wednesday, April 7th, 2010
Penn Room**

Members Attending: E. Kimball, J. Wong

Others Attending: T. Butler, J. Hassel, M. Loaiza

Call to Order

Dr. Kimball called the Board of Health meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Agenda and Minutes

Dr. Kimball called the Board's attention to the agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the March 3rd meeting.

Dr. Kimball moved, seconded by Dr. Wong, to approve the agenda and the March meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

Health Officer's Report

Dr. Hassel read aloud a factual report for health inspections. He stated 252 total inspections were done - 67 were large establishments, 74 were small establishments, and 111 were other health related establishments. He shared that cleanliness was the major infraction. He then added that details of the 252 inspections were not going to be available monthly as the Board of Health requested, due to the paperwork processing system being manual, not computerized.

Dr. Hassel shared that there has been one (1) new lead related case and one (1) case has relocated. He also added that 103 children have also received lead testing.

Dr. Hassel went on to state that currently 29 lead-related cases are deemed non-compliant. He described the main issue surrounding non-compliance being the high volume of City residents moving various times throughout the year. Dr. Kimball inquired if it is known how long each case has been non-compliant. Dr. Hassel responded that he did not have exact information available but some have been for more than six (6) months.

Dr. Hassel shared with the board that he has become aware that the City currently does not have legislation in place to regulate tattoo parlors.

Ms. Rearden joined the meeting at this time.

Dr. Wong inquired if there is blood and needle exposure during the tattooing process. Dr. Hassel confirmed.

Dr. Wong asked if beauty salons and barbershops are required to go through a licensing process with the City. Dr. Hassel confirmed that they do. Ms. Rearden inquired if manicure/pedicure salons also have to go through this process. Dr. Hassel confirmed and stated that it is State regulated.

Dr. Kimball requested that Ms. Butler look into the State regulations. Ms. Butler agreed.

Dr. Hassel asked if the Board was interested in creating a resolution to recommend regulation on the local level. Dr. Kimball stated that it would be best to allow Ms. Butler to research the regulation on the State level first and then decide whether or not recommendations should be made to Council.

Dr. Hassel discussed health permit renewal applications and explained that the Codes Department is behind due to understaffing. He added that the Department only has 2 full-time employees at the present time.

Dr. Kimball questioned why Codes is responsible for the processing of health permits and not Treasury. Ms. Butler explained that Treasury is responsible for the receipt of payments for solid waste, recycling and water bills but each department is responsible for their own processing and billing.

Ms. Rearden asked if the health permit renewal process was the same issue discussed in the Reading Eagle recently. Dr. Hassel replied negatively. Ms. Rearden inquired how much revenue was lost. Dr. Hassel stated approximately \$50K or more.

Bernhart's Park

Dr. Kimball shared with the Board that on Wednesday, March 31st, 2010, Dr. Wong and herself joined Mr. Vaughn Spencer, Council President, Ms. Linda Kelleher, City Clerk, Ms. Deb Hoag, Utilities Division Manager, Ms. Michelle Kircher with the County Commissioners office, Mr. Steven Landes, Muhlenberg Township Manager, Mr. David Beane, member of the City's EAC, Mr. Steven Wheeler, legal representation, Exide officials, PA DEP officials, and representatives from Representative Gerlach, Senator Casey and Senator Specter's office in Allentown to discuss Exide's remediation plan for Bernhart's Park.

Dr. Kimball explained that although not on the agenda, she insisted that a power point presentation be presented by Dr. Wong to explain some of the history of Bernhart's Park. She added that the EPA followed with a presentation and Exide also distributed a work plan to everyone in attendance. The City will have 45 days to review and respond.

Dr. Wong explained the difference between the booklet distributed at the meeting on March 31st and the link the Board received via email being the addition of a fence as an attempt to eliminate access to the heavily lead contaminated areas.

Dr. Kimball stated that a meeting was held earlier this afternoon in the City Clerk's office to discuss the response submission. She stated that all in attendance agreed to compose a letter and have it signed by the County Commissioners, Mayor T. McMahon, and Steven Landes, Muhlenberg Township Manager.

Dr. Kimball shared that she worked on a draft of the letter all afternoon and would like to read it aloud. As she read the letter aloud all Board members and the Health Officer suggested changes and editing occurred.

Dr. Kimball inquired if the Board agreed to the changes. Dr. Wong and Ms. Rearden agreed.

Ms. Loaiza requested a copy of the final draft from Dr. Kimball. Dr. Kimball agreed.

New Business

Ms. Loaiza announced that the following meeting is to be held on May 5, 2010. She explained that Ms. Butler, as well as herself, would not be able to attend on this date and inquired if the Board would like to meet in June or reschedule for another date.

Dr. Kimball expressed the need for a May meeting due to the progress of the response letter. She suggested Wednesday, April 28, 2010. Although Ms. Loaiza will not be able to attend, Ms. Butler agreed to attend and serve as secretary as well.

Dr. Kimball announced the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28th at 6pm.

Dr. Wong moved, seconded by Ms. Rearden, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Respectfully submitted by Maritza Loaiza, Admin Assist to City Clerk