

**BOROUGH OF RARITAN
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
MAY 08, 2024~ 7:04PM**

This Meeting of the Borough of Raritan Board of Health was held Wednesday, May 08, 2024, in the Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, New Jersey 08809 at 7:04pm.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

This meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notices of this meeting were sent to The Courier News and the Breeze News. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, on the Raritan Borough website and filed in the Office of the Borough Clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Proper notice having been given the secretary is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: Gennifer Hoffmeister, Kathryn Mastice, Preni Nair,
Carol Werner

Absent: Anna Bongiovi (Excused), Nina Dory (Excused)

Also Present: Michael McCarty, Assistant Director SCHD, Michael Patente, Liaison, Vince Lo Medico, Director Public Works, and Constance M. DelRocco, Secretary

FLAG SALUTE

The Board Vice President Hoffmeister led Flag Salute.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this point, the Board of Health welcomes comments from any member of the public. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit the opportunity for anyone who wishes to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to 5 minutes. If reading from a prepared statement, please provide a written copy after making your comments. Please sign in by printing your name and address.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

None offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 10, 2024

Will be viewed at the June 12th meeting.

REGISTRAR REPORT

1. April 10, 2024

Board Member Mastice motioned to except Registrar’s Reports, seconded by Board Member Nair, Motion was approved by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
X		Mastice	X			
	X	Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

BOARD OF HEALTH FINANCIAL REMITTANCE

1. April 2024

Board Member Nair motioned to except BOH Financial Remittance Report, seconded by Board Member Mastice, Motion was approved by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
	X	Mastice	X			
X		Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT

HEALTH INSPECTOR’S REPORT

Michael McCarty gave the following report.

Ascendient, is a focus group that will be made up of BOH Members and secretaries. It will be a virtual meeting with the following goals, accreditation, interactions of BOH the Borough, and discuss what the Borough’s goals are.

SCHD is looking at Richard Hall in Bridewater for clinical space for vaccinations and screening. He added this is a good location because it is connected to Somerset County Public Transportation. Need to provide children with vaccinations for them to remain in school. An application has been filed with the State for SCHD to provide services to children and the site inspection has been scheduled.

SCHD inspector Venson Moise is no longer with us, he has been replaced by Peter Enea who has 20 years of experience. He added Brian Woods has been hired for the Medical Reserve Core/Public emergency Health System Coordinator.

He added there will be a networking event at Rutgers Co-Op on May 22, an example would be BOH members from another municipality asked if there was some way to show children/parents a healthy way of eating (interactive Nutritional Healthy eating for children).

Board Member Mastice asked if SCHD was still sponsoring clinics for Covid vaccinations.

M. McCarty noted SCHD is still sponsoring COVID clinics once a month at the Somerset County Senior Center, Wellness Center, Bridgewater. He added they are responding to homebound seniors too.

Member Mastice asked about inspections per year.

M. McCarty noted Risk Factors 3-4 is every six months, Risk Factor 2 is every 9 months and risk factor 1 is usually every year.

Board Member Nair motioned to approve the Health Officer/Health Director’s Report, seconded by Board Member Mastice. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
	X	Mastice	X			
X		Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

Board Member Mastice motioned to approve the Notice, seconded by Board Member Nair. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
	X	Mastice	X			
X		Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

LIAISON REPORT

Councilman Patente gave the following report,

At the May 7, Council meeting Ordinance 2024-07 was voted down, this was an ordinance for the redevelopment of the Raritan Mall property with an apartment building. He added there has been a violation to the old Walgreen site which is illegally being used as a storage area. He added, for the last 2 1/2 months pallets of boxes have been stored at this site. He also noted this area has also been found to have mold since the last floor.

He noted work will start in the month on the Town Hall building soon.

He added the ordinance to amend the number of trash cans that can be placed curbside for each house will now be limited to three containers per household.

He also noted Councilwomen Melisky has announced she will be resigning due to health issues.

Rt 28 property purchased by borough due to water issues in the area. He added the property will act as a retention basin to help with the water problem.

Board Member Nair motioned to approve the Liaison Report, seconded by Board Member Mastice. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
	X	Mastice	X			
X		Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

OLD BUSINESS

Vince Lo Medico, CPWM, Director of DPW, introduced himself and gave the following report: There have been questions about rodents near the tennis courts on First Ave, railroad tracks in this area and homes.

Brian Blute the Property Maintenance Officer has inspected this area and noted there are no rodents. However, an email has been sent to the County for cleanup of garbage along the railroad tracks.

Garbage bags/Garbage Cans

There have been questions about plastic bags/garbage cans. Each single home is allotted three fifty gal cans and they all must be recycled. He added the odors are what attract the animals so bags need to be placed in garbage cans with lids. These cans are to be placed in front of homes no earlier than 6pm the evening before garbage is scheduled to be picked up. He noted if these bags are left alongside the cans, you can spray them with a mixture of water and ammonia. This will be a deterrent to the animals due to the odor of ammonia. He noted thickness should be from 1 ½ -2 mils, if not in compliance the garbage will be picked up, but a sticker will be left, this will be done only twice and then the garbage will not be picked up.

Mattress Wrapping for bulk pickup.

He noted employees wear gloves and glasses when they pickup garbage and bulk. He added an ordinance will be needed for the plastic covering of mattress and furniture with fabric.

It was suggested by the BOH members that the Bulk removal of Mattress and Box Spring Notice be in English and Spanish and posted on Raritan Borough’s website, placed on the BOH Facebook page, and posted in the Municipal Building. Also noted Councilman Patente will discuss an amendment to the current Borough ‘s code for bulk with Mayor Carra and Council. Suggesting all mattress/boxspring and furniture with fabric seating be wrapped in plastic and sealed with tape or the use of plastic bags that seal.

Board Member Mastice motioned to approve the Notice for bulk items to be wrapped in plastic, seconded by Board Member Nair. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey				X
	X	Mastice	X			
X		Nair	X			
		Warner	X			

NEW BUSINESS

The BOH noted the money collected for animal licensing should be used for equipment needed for the rabies clinic (syringes).

It was noted reflector badges were not approved by the BOH. Maybe using the sample until the next meeting and reporting on the results. The BOH will also look at reflector strips.

Board Member Nair motioned to approve, seconded by Member Warner. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey	X			
		Mastice				X
X		Nair	X			
	X	Warner	X			

LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Board Vice President Hoffmeister motioned to approve LBOH membership renewal, seconded by Member Nair. Motion carried by the following roll call vote.

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
		Bongiovi				X
		Hoffmeister	X			
		Dorey	X			
		Mastice				X
X		Nair	X			
	X	Warner	X			

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Nair motioned to adjourn, seconded by Board Member Mastice. Motion carried at 7:55pm. All BOH Members present in agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Constance M. Del Rocco, Secretary
Raritan Borough Board of Health

Approved: October 09, 2024