

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

President Cheriyan stated that notice of this meeting held via Zoom was posted on the Bergenfield Website, sent by e-mail to the Record and Cablevision. It was placed on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and placed on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Pfannen
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Gerundo-Absent
- Mrs. Marte-Absent

Also, present AnneMarie Delacruz, Liz Cruz , Mr. Fedorko, Kayla Williams, Sue Barker , Kelly Grippo, and Pam Lesnak.

OPEN HEARING

Ms. Stanton inquired about the qualifications of the new Board member Daniel Gerundo. She asked if he was involved in healthcare and was wondering why he was appointed to the Board. President Cheriyan confirmed that Mr. Gerundo is an ICU nurse. Mr. Cabuhat gave additional input on Mr. Gerundo's background and mentioned that Mr. Gerundo was an ER Physician in the Philippines, and he currently works in the critical care unit.

There being no one else present who wished to be heard, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried the time for Open Hearings was closed.

MINUTES

President Cheriyan thanked Mrs. Delacruz for the minutes despite the hectic schedule with the office move to the new building. A motion was made by Mr. Cabuhat seconded by Vice- President Pfannen and carried that the Minutes of the regular meeting of March 2024 be accepted as written.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Delacruz stated that on behalf of President Cheriyan, Purchase Orders have been signed by Mrs. Delacruz and submitted. A motion was made by Mr. Cabuhat, seconded by Vice -President Pfannen and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Cryostar Industries	1,700.00
Control Solution	173.00
Gila, LLC	15.00
W. B. Mason Co, Inc.	634.11
Mid Bergen Regional Health	21,705.11
Tyco	3,026.66

REPORTS**Legal and Finance**

No Report due to the absence of Mrs. Marte.

Medical

No Report due to the absence of Mr. Gerundo

Personnel

"No Report"

Publicity

The Board of Health meeting was advertised on the Bergenfield Website, The Record and Cablevision.

Liaison To Mayor & Council

Councilman Deauna reported on the move to the new building and congratulated the staff on their salary increase and wished everyone good luck for the year.

Legislature & Regulatory

Mr. Cabuhat will continue to work with Mr. Fedorko regarding the Feral cat ordinance.

Written Reports of the Department

Mr. Fedorko discussed the CDC announcement of the changes to the covid guidance. He referred to the March 1st report and the 30-minute video that the CDC had put out explaining the rationale for changing the Covid guidelines that are the same as flu, RSV, and other respiratory viruses. In the next report he mentioned that covid is in green for the entire state of NJ and stated that the only time Bergen County was in yellow was in late December and early January. Not included in this report were the high transmission rates of flu.

Mr. Fedorko stated the statistics for Bergenfield and the statistics for the mid Bergen community he confirmed that about 230,000 people within the 15 municipalities which showed that Hepatitis A remained the same, Salmonella remained the same and Shiga toxin increased, and Vibrio cases increased. He also noted that the State Epidemiologist are attributing the cases to better diagnosis of these diseases. The CDC has a long explanation and the increase in cases is attributed to better diagnosis of these diseases.

Mr. Fedorko stated Kelly Grippo will be working with the Mayors Wellness Program. A discussion regarding the program took place. Kelly mentioned that she is waiting to hear back from the Mayor's wife who is running the Mayors Wellness Challenge. Mr. Fedorko asked Kelly when the kickoff date is for the Mayor's Wellness program and Nurse Liz confirmed that April 14th, 2024 at 1pm is the kickoff date and time.

Mr. Fedorko mentioned that Bergenfield receives \$400. He mentioned that Kelly and Liz did not need to use the money last year since there were plenty of donations from private vendors, but they should remember that the money is available and Mid Bergen could assist if needed. President Cheriyan asked that they make sure that Bergenfield gets the money and even try to purchase a new glucometer. Mrs. Pfannen mentioned the money can be used to purchase some medical equipment. President Cheriyan thanked Mr. Fedorko for his report.

Nurse Liz commented on the Mayor's Wellness program, and she is also in the process of planning a 5K run spearheaded by the Municipal Alliance and Stigma Free Committees. President Cheriyan inquired if there is a fee for the 5K run to participate. Nurse Liz mentioned that she has to collaborate with Robert Mader regarding traffic control. President Cheriyan mentioned that if there is any fundraising it should go to the Health Department. Mrs. Dela Cruz mentioned that if it is affiliated with Stigma free then whatever the Health Department does will be free. Nurse Liz also stated that school age vaccination will be held on Thursday March 14, 2024 and she is hopeful the clinic will be ready by then. Mr. Fedorko mentioned that Mrs. Delacruz gave him a tour of the Health Dept. Nurse Liz mentioned that Mrs. Delacruz had to do a lot of talking to get the office done so we could be up and running for the public. Mrs. DeLaCruz mentioned that we have lots of (permanent records) that need to be stored etc. President Cheriyan stated that the office should be provided with everything since there is a surplus in the budget.

A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat, and carried that the written March 2024 Reports of the Department, be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

"No correspondence"

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Fedorko mentioned that he spoke with the President of CLAWS the animal group that shelters cats and dogs. A representative from the CLAWS animal group requested to come to the Board meeting in April to speak with the Board about the TN&R program. He mentioned that Mrs. Pfannen and Mr. Cabuhat and he have met and are working on amending the current Animal Ordinance. Mr. Fedorko would like to add the representative to the Agenda in April.

President Cheriyan mentioned one more reading on the Special Event Ordinance and Mrs. Dela Cruz read Ordinance No. 24-001 and asked for a motion to accept the second reading of Special Event Ordinance by Title only Vice President Pfannen made the motion and Mr. Cabuhat seconded. Roll call was done, and all members present voted "yes"

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fedorko mentioned that the statue states that a representative from each of the Municipalities that are contracted with Mid- Bergen Board. Mrs. Pfannen volunteered not only to be the member for Bergenfield Board of Health but also for the mid Bergen Board of Health a motion and vote are needed. Mrs. DeLaCruz has done a Resolution so that it could be presented to the mid Bergen Attorney and Mrs. Pfannen could get sworn in and begin attending the Board Meetings which are different from the local board. They discuss finances, direction that Mid Bergen wants to go, and the meetings are quarterly and via zoom.

Mr. Cabuhat wondered how the relationship with Bergenfield and Mid Bergen would function. President Cheriyan explained that it is volunteering, and it shows Bergenfield's presence since we get our services from Mid- Bergen. Mr. Cabuhat, wanted to evert any personal conflicts with the position. Mrs. Pfannen asked Mr. Fedorko to explain these details to Mr. Cabuhat. Mr. Cabuhat asked if there was a need to voter for Mrs. Pfannen, Mrs. DeLaCruz stated that we need to pass a resolution, President Cheriyan agreed and confirmed this. Mr. Fedorko suggested that Mr. Cabuhat could be the alternate if he wished to, but Mr. Cabuhat said he is not interested he just wanted to be clear on the reasoning behind this since he had not heard of this before. Mr. Cabuhat thanked Mrs. Pfannen for volunteering her time. Mrs. Delacruz read the resolution that Mrs. Pfannen has been appointed to represent Bergenfield on the Mid Bergen Board. Roll call was done and all members voted "yes"

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

“Nothing to report.”

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried, the meeting was adjourned 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Annemarie Delacruz
Registrar of Vital Statistics*