

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 in compliance with the "The Open Public Meetings Act". It was placed on one Bulletin board in the Municipal Building and placed on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Pfannen
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Ms. Aquino
- Ms. Plan

Also, present AnneMarie Delacruz, Kayla Williams, Susan Barker , Administrator Corey Gallo, Jim Fedorko, Councilman Deauna, and Pam Lesnak

OPEN HEARINGS.

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

MINUTES

President Cheriyan thanked Annemarie for the minutes. A motion was made by Vice-President Pfannen, seconded by Mr. Cabuhat, and carried that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 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. Cabuhut seconded by Mrs. Aquino and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

North Jersey Media	\$	48.92
North Jersey Media	\$	57.28
HARP	\$	2,650.00
McKesson	\$	348.62
MGL Forms	\$	137.00
Mid-Bergen Regional	\$	21,705.00
Stericycle	\$	1070.39
Tyco	\$	2,966.66
Tyco	\$	3,326.66

REPORTS**Legal and Finance**

Vice President Pfannen stated the Mayor's Wellness Program is now year around and the Board along with Mid-Bergen will work with the Mayor and Council to get a description of what the expectations are of the Health Dept. President Cheriyan thanked Vice-President Pfannen.

Medical

President Cheriyan stated there is nothing specific about medical except for the seasonal viruses, especially Covid, RSV, flu and also the Rhinovirus which is the common cold. He referred to the chart that was shared by Mr. Fedorko.

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 mentioned that he did not have a hard time accessing the link and thanked Mrs. Delacruz for her help. Councilman Deauna welcomed Mrs. Victorina Plan as the new Board Member and mentioned that she is his longtime friend. Councilman Deauna informed the Board that the application for cleanup of Metzler's Brook is now in progress. The New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection is requesting the opinion of the residents as to whether they oppose it or not. Councilman Deauna updated the Board in the construction and stated that the parking area is being worked on and there will be a fountain in the front of the building. He said it is not confirmed but this may be his last meeting with the Board. Councilman Deauna thanked the Board for their services. President Cheriyan thanked Councilman Deauna for his services.

Legislature & Regulatory

"No Report"

Written Reports of the Department

Mr. Fedorko mentioned that his reports have three bullet points. The first is about feral cats. Mr. Fedorko stated that he and Mrs. Pfannen had visited with two residents from Closter who cared for feral cats he also spoke to the Animal Welfare Society in Closter on November 5th and on November 19th Mr. Fedorko and Vice-President Pfannen also visited the Tyco Animal shelter to analyze how they take in feral cats. The next report discussed by Mr. Fedorko was the influenza report, he stated that he has not seen any high cases of Flu, RSV or influenza like illnesses at this time. The vector-borne surveillance report mentioned that there were two confirmed cases of West Nile Virus one in Wallington and one in Garfield, the residents had contracted the virus locally.

Kayla Williams did not have anything to report. Vice – President Pfannen asked Kayla about the cat Breeder at 61 New York Avenue, Kayla stated that she was informed by Tyco that they have been working with the resident for two months regarding the issue. Kayla stated the resident had 29 cats, they were removed from the resident’s home and the resident was given a violation, she stated if the problem continues, she will continue to receive additional summons. Mr. Cabuhat asked if there was accountability for the cats. Kayla mentioned that the cats were not feral, they were pure bred Bengal cats which the breeder was breeding for commercial purposes and sale. Kayla stated that the information requested by Mr. Cabuhat should be directed to Tyco. President Cheriyan confirmed since the cats were not feral then Tyco had the legal right to remove the cats from the home.

Nurse Liz stated that she has nothing to share.

A motion was made by Vice- President Pfannan seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the written reports for December 2024 of the Department, be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

President Cheriyan mentioned that he filed a complaint about the interception of hackers at the September zoom meeting. He stated that the outcome of the complaint by the Police Department was they were able to track it to a person in Texas, which was then referred to the Texas Police Department. The Texas Police Department visited the address on record and was not able to locate anyone. President Cheriyan stated that he was advised to use encrypted log in access to ensure more security rather than open access. Mrs. Delacruz has been using a secure link which can only be accessed if you have an email and an account with zoom.

Mr. Gallo asked President Cheriyan if he was made aware of the issue and inquired about when this incident occurred. Mr. Gallo stated that he should have been contacted since the Borough has insurance with JIF which covers cybersecurity and also stated that the IT people should have been informed since someone tried to intercept the firewall on zoom. He also mentioned that the tracing may be easier if the IT people were involved. President Cheriyan mentioned that he thought everyone was aware of the issue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Delacruz stated that Mr. Fedorko and Kayla were working on the fees for the Food Licenses. Mr. Fedorko mentioned that Bogota is increasing the fees and that he will have a coworker review the fees for Bogota and send it to Mrs. Delacruz and Kayla for review. Mrs. Delacruz stated that the 1st reading for this ordinance can be done at the January Board meeting once everyone is in agreement of the fee schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution to charge for the safe sitter class which has been changed by Mrs. Delacruz. A decision was made to charge \$25.00 per student for materials and lunch. Vice- President Pfannen discussed this in detail and mentioned that this should be limited to Bergenfield Residents Only. Nurse Liz mentioned that she and Nurse Robin have been supplying lunches for the last few months. Mr. Gallo and Vice – President Pfannen stated that the bills moving forward can be submitted for reimbursement.

President Cheriyan asked how the billing will be processed, Mrs. Dela Cruz mentioned she will have to speak to Kent regarding opening up a new line item, so that the fees for the books and lunches can be paid out of this account. Mrs. Delacruz stated this would be a better option rather than taking the funds out of the supply account. Mr. Cabuhut inquired on whether the books can be borrowed from the library.

Mrs. Delacruz discussed this was not an option since the course requires that each student take the book home with them for future reference. Mrs. Delacruz read the Resolution that the fees for the safe sitter class be set at \$25.00 per student for student materials and lunch.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Health of the Borough of Bergenfield that the fees for Babysitting Class be set as follows and adopted on December 10, 2024.

A. \$25. 00 per student for student materials

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
CHERIYAN	x			
PFANNEN	x			
CABUHAT	x			
AQUINO	x			
PLAN	x			

On Roll Call, all members present voted: YES. The Resolution was adopted on December 10, 2024

Mrs. Delacruz stated that Mr. Fedorko and Dr. Rothenberg submitted Contracts for 2025. The Contracts would be voted on at the January Board Meeting.

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Delacruz mentioned that the Rabies clinic went well 83 residents came to the clinic. Mrs. Delacruz mentioned that the Thanksgiving drive also went well she stated that Ms. Lesnak and herself were able to secure 300 Turkeys for distribution, between the churches and for the Mayor and Councils Turkey Drive at the Borough Hall. Mr. Cabuhut asked if the new Board Member, Ms. Victorina Plan can introduce herself. Ms. Plan proceeded to introduce herself and mentioned all her credentials. President Cheriyan thanked her and welcomed her on behalf of the Board. President Cheriyan expressed his gratitude to everyone especially Mid-Bergen, Councilman Deauna, Mr. Gallo, and all the Health Dept. staff. President Cheriyan wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year on behalf of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*Annemarie DelaCruz
Registrar of Vital Statistics*