

Reorganization meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

Present: Melissa Davidson, M.D., Co-President  
Barry Cohen, PhD  
Karen Eigen, M.D.  
Jennie Li, M.D.  
Barbara Paller, EMT

Lou Apa, Sanitarian  
Larry Weiss, Council Liaison

Absent: Karl Bednarek, M.D.  
Denise Hayes, RPh, Co-President  
Gregory Kaufman, M.D.  
Nancy Polifroni, RN

The Board welcomed Councilman Weiss as the new Council Liaison. He took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order and upon roll call, the above members were present.

It was noted that Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Polifroni were unable to attend and Drs. Bednarek and Kaufman would arrive late.

## **2015 OFFICERS**

Councilman Weiss entertained nominations for the 2015 officers.

### **President**

Dr. Cohen nominated Mrs. Hayes and Dr. Davidson as co-presidents

Seconded by Mrs. Paller and unanimously carried.

Dr. Davidson took the Chair.

It was noted that since they will be co-presidents, it was not necessary to elect a vice-president.

### **Secretary**

Dr. Davidson nominated Mrs. Paller, as Secretary.

Seconded by Dr. Li and unanimously carried.

Reorganization meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

Treasurer

Dr. Li nominated Dr. Cohen as Treasurer.

Seconded by Dr. Eigen and unanimously carried.

Recording Secretary

Dr. Davidson moved to reappoint Mrs. O'Dowd as Recording Secretary.

Seconded by Dr. Cohen and unanimously carried.

Sanitarian

Dr. Cohen moved to reappoint Mr. Apa as Sanitarian.

Seconded by Dr. Davidson and unanimously carried.

Meeting Date

Dr. Cohen moved to continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m.

Seconded by Mrs. Paller and unanimously carried.

Notices

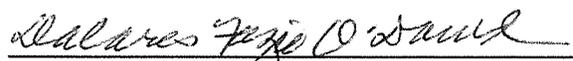
Dr. Davidson moved to continue to notice and advertise in whatever publications the Borough Administrator sees fit.

Seconded by Dr. Li and unanimously carried.

There being no further business, Dr. Li moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Dr. Cohen and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dolores Fazio O'Dowd

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Barry Cohen, PhD  
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Gregory Kaufman, M.D.  
Jennie Li, M.D.  
Barbara Paller, EMT

Lou Apa, Sanitarian  
Larry Weiss, Council Liaison

Absent: Denise Hayes, RPh, Co-President  
Nancy Polifroni, RN

The meeting was called to order and upon roll call, the above members were present. Dr. Bednarek and Dr. Kaufman arrived a short time later.

It was noted that Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Polifroni were unable to attend.

The Board welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Darwani, who asked to appear before the Board.

Dr. Davidson announced that they were changing the order of the meeting this evening so that the residents on in attendance would be first on the agenda.

In essence, Mr. and Mrs. Darwani stated the following. They said that they lived at 322 Chestnut Street and were concerned about a tree in front of their house. Mr. Darwani said that there was a tree near the street, which they wanted to remove but were told that they were not allowed to do so.

Their neighbor, Joe Allegro, saw the tree service starting to do work on the tree and he came running out and told them that they had to stop. He also called the Police.

Mr. Darwani stated that the tree service people said that they had called the Municipal Center and were told that there would not be a problem. He said they wanted to let the Board know why they wanted to take down the tree.

Regular meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

Mrs. Darwani stated that they are taking care of Mr. Darwani's mother, who has Alzheimer's disease, and she has lost the ability to know when it is day or night and without natural light her mother-in-law cannot keep her circadian rhythm to stay on track. Mrs. Darwani said that the subject tree is on the town's easement so they need permission before they could proceed.

Mrs. Darwani stated that two arborists inspected the tree and reported that it was becoming a hazard because of its roots and the possibility of being hit by lightening.

*Dr. Bednarek arrived.*

She said that her mother-in-law spent a lot of time in the room near the tree, which is the family room. Mrs. Darwani explained that time had passed and she felt that the Board of Health might be able to help them with this situation because of the medical reasons involved.

*Dr. Kaufman arrived.*

Mr. Apa suggested that they contact the Shade Tree Commission for assistance.

Mr. Darwani responded that they had approached Mayor DeRienzo and he was the one who suggested going before the Board of Health. They were told that if the Shade Tree Commission denied their request, they should appeal to the Board of Health.

The Board advised Mr. and Mrs. Darwani that they had to look further into this matter - they could not make a decision or give an opinion this evening. They elaborated.

Mr. and Mrs. Darwani thanked the Board and excused themselves.

There was discussion and many questions came up including those relating to what the arborists supposedly said, the cost of removing the tree, the true effect of light on Alzheimer's patients, and whether the Board had to do their own medical research.

It was noted that their neighbor, Mr. Allegro, was president of the Shade Tree Commission.

Mr. Apa said he visited the site and felt there should be some kind of a recommendation from this Board.

Regular meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

It was noted that over the years, the Governing Body had chosen to have tree-lined streets and they established a Shade Tree Commission to preserve the trees, which are on the easements. The Commission removes the trees which they inspect and find to be damaged or in trouble.

It was the feeling of the Board that the tree might, in fact, be doing well and it was not up to them to decide.

Dr. Cohen felt that if the Board gave an opinion, they needed to first look at medical facts, which required research. He said it shouldn't be up to this Board to find out if there was a medical reason to take it down - a doctor with knowledge in this field should give an opinion. He felt that if there was a possible health issue, the Board should take a stand.

There was discussion about hospitals and rest homes possibly keeping Alzheimer's patients in rooms without outside light at some time. They felt they needed an expert opinion.

A suggestion was made about having the tree pruned as much as could be to allow light in rather than taking it down.

It was decided that Drs. Davidson and Eigen would look into this matter and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 2014 meeting were reviewed.

Dr. Kaufman asked that page 38 be amended to show the correct spelling of the presenter's name and add information, e.g., "Dr. Suraj Saggar, of Holy Name Hospital, made his presentation to approximately 20 members of the public."

Dr. Cohen moved to accept the minutes as amended, subject to the rights of absent members for statements directly attributed to them.

Seconded by Dr. Li and unanimously carried.

Regular meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

### **SANITARIAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Apa reported on the following:

- There were three dog bites and all dogs were quarantined.
- The owners of the new café were told that all food handlers needed to take the Bergen County Food Handlers Course and pass the test prior to its opening.
- An inspection was made at Alessandro's Restaurant's existing and expanded areas. The owner was told that they too had to take and pass the Bergen County Food Handlers Course since it has been five years since they last complied.
- An inspection was made at the Bergen County Child Development Center.
- There were violations at a home on Schraalenburgh Road, which seemed to be abandoned.
- A dog owner on Summit Avenue was supposed to appear in court because of an expired dog license; however, they came in to get the license and the summons was withdrawn.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Board formally congratulated and welcomed Mayor Smart and Councilman Weiss.

Mayor Smart thanked everyone for the time and talent they have given to the Borough. In essence, he talked about the work that they do and said it is of value all year round and is priceless. Mayor Smart said that things are better in the Borough because of the Board of Health members' skills and kindness.

Mayor Smart gave special thanks to Dr. Bednarek and Dr. Kaufman for accepting their reappointments to the Board. He then administered the Oath of Office to them.

Regular meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Invoice for the renewal of the Harvard Health Newsletter.
- December 2014 and January 2015 issues of the Harvard Health Newsletter.
- Memorandum relating to the protocol for medical emergencies should there be a terrorist attack.

### **COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilman Weiss thanked the Board for their service. He reported on the following:

- There were ongoing meetings to work on the budget.
- He was working on the ordinance to ban smoking in parks.

Dr. Davidson stated that the Board was trying to decide on whether to move forward on this issue.

It was noted that Al Ferrara, of the Bergen County Department of Health, had given the presentation to the Board and he could be reached at 201-634-2600.

### **SPRING HEALTH FAIR**

There was discussion about the Spring Health Fair and Dr. Davidson asked for comments on the 2014 event.

Mr. Apa said that it was great.

Dr. Cohen said that it was a great concept.

Dr. Li said she felt they had a very good turnout.

Everyone agreed that it was very successful, well received, and enjoyed by all.

The suggested date was June 14, 2015 or another date prior to June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Regular meeting of the Haworth Board of Health on January 22, 2015, at the Municipal Center.

Dr. Davidson asked for everyone's opinion on whether to call it something different, e.g., something to do with wellness and fitness.

Dr. Davidson also asked everyone to think about who should be invited as a presenter. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Dr. Cohen suggested sending around a list of the 2014 presenters. He also suggested that they raffle a bike at the next event.

### **FALL HEALTH FAIR**

Dr. Davidson asked the Board if they wanted to think about only administering vaccinations at this event.

A suggested date was October 3, 2015 from 9 to 11 a.m.

This topic was tabled.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

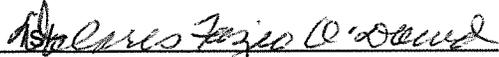
Councilman Weiss reported that there have been many concerns raised because of deer overpopulation. He felt that this issue should be addressed and worked on by a sub-committee.

This matter was tabled for the next meeting.

There being no further business, Dr. Bednarek moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Dr. Kaufman and unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dolores Fazio O'Dowd