

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

November 28, 2018

6:00 P.M.

Managers Conference Room

Present: Dr. Anthony Brickman, Maureen Adams, Camila Pena,
Rabiah Asif, Mary Baird, Chairperson, Carol Chamberlain, Health Officer

Absent: Leo Brummel, Darlene Hanley, Cathleen Lewis, Council Liaison

Guest: Morgan Pesanelli, Rutgers University Graduate Student

Agenda: Maureen Adams motioned to approve the agenda. Rabiah Asif seconded the motion. The agenda was approved.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Maureen Adams offered a motion to approve the minutes. Mary Baird seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vision Zero Policy Statement

Morgan Pesanelli, Graduate Student at Rutgers School of Public Health provided a summary of the Vision Zero concept and provided information on the importance of a policy statement supporting Vision Zero. Morgan shared the toolkit she created for safe driving for seniors. Morgan also discussed the presentation of the toolkit she provided at Brookshire Apartments earlier in November.

Morgan explained Vision Zero is a public health initiative which focuses on the prevention of fatalities in traffic accidents. She shared that concept that Complete Streets activities can be a component of the Vision Zero policy in a municipality. Ideally, a Vision Zero Policy should be adopted Township –wide, involving other departments such as Engineering, Public Works and Police. At this time Morgan is requesting the Health Advisory Board support a resolution to adopt a comprehensive policy statement supporting the concept of Vision Zero. Rabiah Asif made a motion to adopt the said resolution. Camila Pena seconded the motion. The Board voted 4-0 to adopt the resolution.

Greater Mercer Public Health Partnership (GMPHP)

Carol Chamberlain provided an update on the GMPHP. The Community Advisory Board met in October to review the results of the needs assessment and to begin the process of prioritizing the needs of the residents of Mercer County and to develop the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). Approximately 55- 60 people attended the meeting. Unlike the past two CHIPs, the priority groups are now segregated into age groups rather than priority areas by health concern. There is an overarching priority for the CHIP which will be “Healthy Living and Healthy Lifestyle.” There will be four subgroups, based on age, to work toward one or two goals of health living. It is anticipated the Community Health Improvement Plan will be completed by the end of 2018. The Community Needs Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan will both be posted on the Township website when completed.

Influenza Vaccination Program

This year the Township contracted with Rite Aid pharmacies to assist with flu clinics. There were three flu clinics conducted, two at the Lawrence Senior Center and one clinic was conducted at the Lawrence Municipal Building. There were 240 immunizations administered in 2018. The pharmacy accepts most health insurance therefore the vaccination were available to anyone over the age of 12 years old. The clinics were well received. The public health nurses were present to share additional flu prevention information with residents at the clinics.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Programs

The health department was asked to provide health information at the three Healthy Bones classes at the Lawrence Senior Center in December. The programs will be presented before or after the exercise programs conducted by Interfaith Caregivers. The topics of the education sessions will include the importance of staying hydrated, healthy snacks at the holidays and rethink your drink which discusses how to reduce your sugar intake in drinks with smart beverage choices.

A special medication drop off day will be held at the Lawrence Senior Center in December. The program is being coordinated by the health department, the police department and the Lawrence Alcohol and Drug Alliance. In addition to being able to safely dispose of old medicine at this event, information will be available on the importance of safely disposing of medicines, additional locations for the safe disposal of medicine and how to properly store medication.

Meeting Dates for 2019

The proposed meeting dates for 2019 are February 6th, May 1st, September 4th and December 4th. All meetings are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at the Lawrence Township Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Dr. Brickman to adjourn the meeting. Rabiah Asif seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain
Health Officer