

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 1, 2007**

Dorothy V. Fish, RN. President, called the Board of Health meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members in attendance were: David Klopp, DVM; Theresa Bushman, RN; Steven Clarke, DC; Richard Morski, MD; Linda Brock, RN;

Staff in attendance were: Angela Musella, Health Officer NBRHC, Denise Romano and Joyce Vooyo Secretaries Board of Health.

Excused: Patricia Reineke RN

Absent: Steven Sclafani and David Connolly, Mayor

**Reading of the Open Public Meetings Act Work Session statement**

Denise Romano, Board of Health Secretary, read the Open Work Meetings Act statement: "This Regular Work Session Meeting of the Wyckoff Board of Health is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting appears on our Annual Schedule of meetings. A copy of said Annual Schedule has been posted on the Bulletin Board in memorial Town Hall: a copy has been filed with the Municipal Clerk, *The Record*, *The Ridgewood News* and the *North Jersey Herald and News* – all newspapers having general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff. At least 48 hours prior to this meeting the Agenda thereof was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers.

**Approval of 10/4/07 minutes as corrected:** Motioned Steven Clarke, DC seconded Richard Morski, MD all voting yes.

**Report of the President**

Due to the recreational football game and court, once again there was lack of parking at Town Hall for the Board of Health, Ms. Fish and the Board unanimously request that the Board of Health meetings be moved to an alternate space. The Board suggests the Larkin House. Mrs. Fish to contact Mr. Shannon.

**Influenza Prevention Program and Health Fair**

The Health Fair went smoothly, however, several issues need to be addressed for the 2008 Health Fair and influenza prevention program.

The Board of Health approved the purchase of 800 doses of the influenza vaccine for the 2007 influenza prevention program. According to Ms. Musella, Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission, (NWRHC) Health Officer, 307 Wyckoff residents were vaccinated at the Health Fair. An additional 35 ambulance corp. members and fire fighters, 15 homebound residents and 12 residents at the Seniors Club were also vaccinated. The total Wyckoff residents and employees vaccinated at the time of the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was 369.

The number of residents vaccinated was down considerably from 2006. A decision must be made as to the quantity of vaccine that should be ordered for 2008.

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Ms. Fish suggested several reasons for the decrease in the attendance of the Health Fair:

- 1) An abundance of influenza vaccine compared to shortages in past several years
- 2) Local physicians received their supplies of vaccine earlier this year and in some cases charge for the injection plus an office visit.
- 3) Residents going to CVS, Walgreens or Sicomac Pharmacy to receive the vaccination.
- 4) Because of shortages in prior years, residents get nervous and will “jump at the chance” to receive the vaccine and not wait for the Health Fair.
- 5) Residents “don’t want to wait on line.”

The Health Fair starts at 1:00. Ms. Fish reported the following time table for vaccination:

1:20 pm	80 residents	1:55pm	180 residents
1:45 pm	150 residents	2:30pm	250 residents

There was no wait. Residents took part in the other Health Fair activities after receiving the vaccination. These included glaucoma screening, diabetes screening, blood pressure screening, chiropractic screening and health education.

Ms. Fish requested permission from the Board to contact the pharmacies to try to determine how many Wyckoff residents received their vaccinations from them. The Board gave Ms. Fish their approval.

Ms. Fish and the Board commented the date of the Health Fair and Influenza Prevention Program are prominently placed on the back flap of the Municipal Update. The Public Service Announcement (PSA) is constantly featured in the local newspapers. The PSA is sent to all churches for their bulletins weeks prior to the Health Fair. It was suggested that large signs be posted around the Township prior to the 2008 Health Fair and posted in locations like the Larkin House and Township Library. However many residents comment about lack of information.

The residents must also recognize that the Township of Wyckoff and the Wyckoff Board of Health sponsor the Health Fair and provide the influenza vaccine as a community service and the vaccine is purchased for their use by the Township.

If the Board knows that the full order of vaccine is available next year, the PSA must state that there is no shortage and the vaccine is available throughout the length of the Health Fair without a wait. Residents do not have to arrive prior to 1:00 p.m.

The PSA should accurately state which screening and informational participants will be attending the Health Fair. A few residents requested an audiologist, mental health, and pulmonary function screening. Ms. Fish will contact West Bergen Mental Health and request they be present at the 2008 Health Fair. The Board also suggested including a podiatrist, stroke, carotid artery and skin cancer screenings. The Board commented that two nurses should provide blood pressure screenings. Ms. Romano suggested the new PSA be ready by June in order to correctly include the new information in the Municipal Update.

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Wyckoff Seniors Club

Mrs. Clarke, member of the Wyckoff Seniors, contacted Ms. Romano and stated the Seniors would like the Board of Health to attend one of their meetings to discuss what the Board of Health has to offer the Seniors. Mrs. Fish tried several times to contact Mr. Kenyon, President of the Wyckoff Seniors, with no reply. Mrs. Fish attended one of the planned Tuesday Wyckoff Senior meetings and had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Kenyon and to also administer 12 influenza vaccinations.

The Seniors are very interested in health education programs. Ms. Fish to contact Bergen Community Health Care to set up a Fall Prevention Program for the Seniors prior to the end of the year.

**Report of the Health Officer**

Food Handler's Course

A Food Handler's Course was held in Montvale. Four food handlers from Wyckoff attended the course. No Spanish speaking food handlers from Wyckoff attended the Spanish speaking course. Ms. Fish asked if the course would be held again in Wyckoff and possibly in Spanish. Ms. Musella said they try to rotate locations between the municipalities within the Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission service area.

Sanitary Health Inspections

Ms. Brunner, Health Inspector, NWBRHC, followed up with the YMCA concerning their menu for their weekend event. A food handler's license was issued for the event.

Eisenhower Middle School had been using the steam trays to reheat the food. The food should be reheated and then placed in the steam trays. This will be corrected.

Ms. Brunner and Ms. Musella visited the resident on Cottage Rd as a follow up and the property is fine, however they noticed a possible problem with the exterior electrical wiring.

A complaint was received concerning cigarette smoking within private offices on West Main St. Ms. Brunner and Ms. Musella visited and found the party responsible for the smoking. They were instructed to stop.

Ms. Fish requests further discussion concerning a smoking ordinance for the Township.

**New Business**

**MRSA (methicillin- resistant STAPHYLOCOCCUS aureus)**

MRSA is a bacterial infections surfacing in schools and other places. As of the meeting MRSA has not been reported in Wyckoff. Ms. Fish wrote an informational PSA concerning the symptoms, spread and prevention of MRSA and other communicable diseases. (Attached) The PSA was sent to the RIH/IHHS Board of Education, Wyckoff Board of Education and all school nurses including St. Elizabeth's and Eastern Christian Middle Schools, pre-schools, gyms, YMCA and placed on the Wyckoff Township web site. There is also a link to NWBRHC for more information

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As of the meeting there was no required reporting of MRSA and other hospital-borne infections to the State Department of Health. However Gov. Corzine is scheduled to sign a bill requiring the reporting of MRSA and other communicable diseases found in hospitals to the State Department of Health.

**Old Business**

Stipend

Ms. Musella found a state law NJSA 26 dating back to 1953 stating that Boards of Health members would receive \$2.00 stipend per meeting.

**Adjournment 8:45 pm**

Dorothy V. Fish, R.N, President, called the Board of Health meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

Members in attendance were: Dr. David Klopp DVM, Theresa Bushman R.N., Dr. Steven Clarke DC, Dr. Richard Morski, Linda Brock, R.N., Richard Morski, MD

Staff in attendance were: Angela Musella, Health Officer NBRHC, Denise Romano and Joyce Voos Secretaries Board of Health.

Excused: Patricia Reineke R.N.  
Absent: Steven Sclafani and David Connolly

Denise Romano, Board of Health Secretary, read the Open Meeting Act statement: "This Regular Meeting of the Wyckoff Board of Health is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting appears on our Annual Schedule of meetings. A copy of said Annual Schedule has been posted on the Bulletin Board in Memorial Town Hall; a copy has been filed with the Municipal Clerk, *The Record*, *The Ridgewood News* and the *North Jersey Herald and News* – all newspapers having general circulation through the Township of Wyckoff. At least 48 hours prior to this meeting the Agenda thereof was similarly posted, filed and mailed to said newspapers."

No public comment

Adjournment: 8:55 p.m.

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**Township of Wyckoff  
Public Service Announcement**

**PREVENTION of MRSA**  
(methicillin- resistant STAPHYLOCOCCUS aureus)  
and other communicable diseases

Basic Information:

MRSA is a bacterial infection (not a virus) surfacing in schools and other settings. MRSA is the abbreviation for methicillin- resistant Staphylococcus aureus. It is primarily a skin infection often resembling a pimple, boil or spider bite at its onset. It quickly worsens into an abscess or pus filled blister or sore and becomes serious when it enters the blood stream. This lesion should not be squeezed or drained as this can spread the infection to other parts of the skin or deeper into the body via the bloodstream.

The vast majority of MRSA infections have historically occurred within hospital settings. However, up to 15% occur in the community among otherwise healthy people. This population includes those who are prone to cuts and scrapes particularly children and athletes.

How is MRSA communicated?

MRSA spreads by skin to skin contact, crowded conditions and the sharing of personal items.

Who is at risk?

- 1) Those who have regular contact with patients in hospitals, nursing homes, or have recently been discharged with MRSA.
- 2) Those who have regular contact with health care workers.
- 3) Those who have recently taken antibiotics such as fluoroquinolone or cephalosporin.
- 4) Men who have sex with men.
- 5) The misuse or overuse of antibiotics allows bacteria to evolve and develop resistance to drugs. Antibiotics should be taken only when necessary and patients should take the full course of medication as prescribed by their physician.
- 6) Scrapes and sores must be kept clean and bandaged until healed – minor cuts and scrapes are the way MRSA takes hold.
- 7) People who have sores that will not heal or that are filled with pus should see a physician and request a test for staph infection.

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How can MRSA be prevented?

Parents, children, and teenagers (particularly athletes) must be instructed as to the following facts:

- 1) Personal items should not be shared. This includes water bottles and any other containers also brushes, combs, razors, lip balm, towels, makeup, cell phones and musical instruments.
- 2) Musical instruments, particularly those that are shared, must have a strict and enforceable policy and procedure for cleaning the instruments in place in all schools.
- 3) Staph grows rapidly in warm, moist environments. Extra vigilance should be exercised in gyms and health clubs.
- 4) Equipment in gyms should be wiped down using equal parts of bleach and water.

**THE VERY MOST IMPORTANT PREVENTIVE MEASURE IS ALWAYS  
HAND WASHING**

**WASH HANDS – WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY**

Have ready access to a hand sanitizer. (Purell is an example) in an antibacterial form, either lotion, wipes or liquid.

Are infected cases reportable?

People who are infected are permitted to attend school as long as they are compliant with infection control measures.

At this time the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services does not recommend parent notification for isolated cases. The Wyckoff Board of Health will urge the State of New Jersey public health officials to establish a reporting system that will ensure tracking of risks and a means of epidemiological investigation to reduce spread.

For further information you may contact the Northwest Bergen Regional Health Commission at 201-445-7217 or at the following web site: [www.nwbrhc.org](http://www.nwbrhc.org).