



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Minutes

7:30pm

October 11, 2023

Meeting Location – Municipal Courtroom

"It is the intention of the Board to conclude this meeting by 9:30pm. Any Agenda item not considered by 9:30pm will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting"

- I. **OPENING STATEMENT** – Adequate notice of the meeting as required by sections 3(d) and 4(a) of the Open Public Meeting Act has been provided to the public and filed with the Township Clerk.

- II. **BOARD MEMBERS** – Dr. Grayson (A) , Dr. McGeary (X), Dr. Faisal (A),
Dr. Sharma (X), Dr. Wolfson (A), Dr. Saraiya (X), Dr. Newman (X)

Alternate 1: Dr. O'Mara (X)

Alternate 2: Dr. Mohan (X)

HEALTH OFFICER – Devangi Patel - X

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – Jennifer Foster – X

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE LIASON: — Neena Singh – X

ADVISOR – Dr. Mandelbaum - A

HEALTH DEPT. STAFF – Erika Van Wagner and Kiele Cruse

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS –**

The Board of Health welcomes and encourages input from the public.

Members of the public are allotted one opportunity to bring any new business to the Board for a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. All comments or questions are to be directed to the board before you make your comment, please state your name, address and subject matter. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding department of health employees and to avoid any potential liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages references to specific individuals.

While directing your comments or questions to the board, please understand that the public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question and answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the board. The board president may need to refer an issue to the health officer

representing the department of health if the particular issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command with the department of health before coming to the board for a response.

Responses may be provided at the end of this session. There are times when comments and questions will require additional information gathering before a response is provided.

We thank you for your understanding and respect the rules of order. We open the agenda to and welcome public comment at this time.

No Public Comment this meeting

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed hereunder are considered routine in nature and will be approved in one motion. Any member may request that an item(s) be removed for separate consideration:

A. MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Health Department Monthly Report – September 2023
2. Communicable Disease Report – September 2023
3. Animal Control Report – September 2023

B. MINUTES APPROVED: The minutes of the regular meetings of the Board of Health held on **September 13, 2023**

Motion to Approve: Dr. Newman **Seconded:** Dr. Mohan

V. PUBLIC HEARING - AN ORDINANCE 2023-02 ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY BOARD OF HEALTH, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION IN 2023.

Title: **AN ORDINANCE 2023-02 ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY BOARD OF HEALTH, AND TO PROVIDE FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION IN 2023.**

Public Hearing:

Motion to Close: Dr. Newman Seconded: Dr. Sharma
All in Favor: Aye Opposed: None

Motion: Dr. Newman Seconded: Dr. Sharma

BE IT RESOLVED By Montgomery Township Board of Health that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted on this 11th day of October 2023 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

Roll Call: Dr. Saraiya (Y), Dr. Wolfson (A), Dr. Grayson (A),Dr. McGeary (Y) Dr.Faisal (A), Dr. Sharma (Y), Dr. Newman (Y)

Alternate 1: Dr. O'Mara (Y)

Alternate 2: Dr. Mohan (Y)

VI. Health Officers Comments –

Public Health Assessment Presentation – Presented by Kiele Cruse, Montgomery Township Local Health Outreach Coordinator.

Opioid Settlement Fund Presentation – Presented by Erika Van Wagner, Health Educator for Montgomery Township.

Presentation slides shall be provided in the November Board of Health Packets.

Health Officer Comments –

Rutgers University School of Nursing is interested in partnering on development of an internship program with public health nurses. They are proposing having 1-2 nursing students assigned to Montgomery Township to provide exposure to the public health side of nursing as there is currently a critical shortage and need for nurses in this field. Ms. Patel is looking for support from the board to pursue this further. Our current public health nurses are in full support of this program.

VII. New Business –

Township Committee Liaison Neena Singh wanted to say a few words.

In response to a request from the governor's office, a roundtable dialogue centered on the topic of "Reproductive Rights in New Jersey" took place. The governor's office specifically requested the presence of a South Asian physician at this discussion. Mrs. Singh contacted Dr. Mohan, who graciously accepted the invitation and attended the event to represent Montgomery Township.

On November 3rd, an event celebrating "Diwali" will be held at Montgomery High School, scheduled from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There is no need for tickets to attend, and all members of the board are cordially invited to join.

Dr. McGeary acknowledged and expressed appreciation for Health Officer Devangi Patel's kind gesture of allocating some of her grant funds to furnish tablets for the seats at the dais in the Council Chambers.

Ms. Patel has reached out to the Department of Health, Office of Local Public Health and the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials to extend an invitation to the Deputy Health Commissioner who is interested in visiting Health Departments around the state. Regrettably, we not received a response as of now. The board also has a separate channel to extend an invitation through the Commissioner's office. In response to the BOH President's request, the board will prepare and submit a letter to the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) with signatures from all Board of Health members.

VIII. Adjournment was at 8:44pm pm as a motion by Dr. Sharma with Dr. Saraiya seconding the motion. Carried unanimously.

Date of Approval: _____
Devangi Patel, Health Officer