

**Board of Health
Tuesday, April 5, 2016
Penn Room**

Members Attending: B. Hospidor, J. Dethoff, J. Seidel, J. Wong, K. Schorn
Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer, T. Arentz, T. Coleman

Dr. Dethoff called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

A quorum was present.

Public Comment

Genaro Arias, of Buttonwood St, questioned how to open a medical practice in the City. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that Mr. Arias would need to speak with the Zoning Administrator. She explained that the Board of Health does not issue medical licenses or authorize the opening of medical facilities.

Mr. Arias and Dr. Dethoff discussed Mr. Arias's background. Mr. Arias stated that traditional medicine did not assist with his Multiple Sclerosis but that natural methods did.

Mr. Arias questioned how to become a member of this Board. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she would mail Mr. Arias an application form.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Hospidor, seconded by Dr. Wong, to approve the February 2, 2016 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Health Officer Report

Mr. Arentz presented the monthly report.

Ms. Schorn questioned if there were any issues with any of the restaurant inspections. Mr. Arentz stated that there have been no restaurant issues recently.

Berks Teens Matter

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that the group is making progress and will begin engaging with the community in early May.

Dr. Dethoff stated that his schedule has not allowed him to attend meetings but that he still hopes to attend future meetings.

Bed Bugs

Dr. Dethoff stated that there is a lot of information available. He distributed sample information. He suggested that this format be used for Reading and that the information be available on the City's website and through its offices. He stated that the FAQ from the CDC is also very helpful. He suggested that the information be available in both English and Spanish.

Mr. Arentz stated that bed bugs are also addressed in the City's Property Maintenance Code. Dr. Dethoff suggested that he work with Mr. Arentz to ensure the information is correct and specific to Reading's regulations.

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she will create the flyers.

Dr. Dethoff stated that many informational websites are sponsored by exterminators.

Dr. Dethoff questioned how bed bugs are addressed in public housing. Mr. Arentz stated that public housing is not inspected by the City but is overseen by the Housing Authority.

Lead in Water

Dr. Dethoff stated that he would like to address this issue locally given the situation in Flint, MI. He questioned who monitored lead levels for Reading and if this Board would have a role. He suggested that the Board invite the Water Authority for review. The Board agreed.

Ms. Schorn stated that WFMZ tested lead levels in the Allentown schools and high lead levels forced the District to further review the issue.

Dr. Wong praised the Water Authority for its testing (as learned during the Board's review of the fluoride levels) but stated that the water is tested at the source. He stated that by the time the water is ingested, it may have become contaminated by piping. He recommended that the Reading School District test its water. He stated that this would show levels City-wide in many neighborhoods.

Dr. Dethoff requested that a representative of the Water Authority attend the next meeting.

Ms. Schorn noted her surprise that the Reading School District has not made efforts to test the lead levels in the schools.

Dr. Wong stated that another way to determine lead levels is through pediatric blood test results. He suggested that Dr. Kimball also be invited to the next meeting.

Zika Virus

Dr. Dethoff stated that Reading will be a monitoring site due to its residents who travel to areas where Zika has been found.

Dr. Wong agreed that Reading should be a monitoring site. He stated that he has many patients who travel to these areas.

Dr. Dethoff stated that the virus has been around for many years but that it has not been this problematic in the past.

Ms. Schorn noted the need to better control the mosquito population.

Mr. Hospidor stated that contracting the virus in impoverished areas is far more problematic.

Dr. Wong stated that if standing water contains fish, the mosquitos are eaten. Dr. Dethoff agreed and stated that there are also products that are sold in hardware stores that kill mosquitos.

Dr. Wong questioned if the City had been contacted about being a monitoring site and where the monitors would be placed. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she did not have this information but suggested that perhaps the Mayor's office was contacted.

There was a brief discussion on the transmission of the virus.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7 at 4 pm in the Penn Room.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Shelly Katzenmoyer
Deputy City Clerk*