TOWNSHIP OF COLTS NECK
BOARD OF HEALTH
January 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Pam Sokoler called the Colts Neck Board of Health meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the following statement: "As Vice-Chair and Presiding Officer of this meeting of the Colts Neck Board of Health, I hereby declare that the notice requirements of the New Jersey public meetings law have been satisfied by noticing the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times on January 23, 2024 stating that a regular meeting of the Colts Neck Township Board of Health would be held on January 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Colts Neck Library, 2 Veterans Way, Colts Neck. A copy is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk. I further order that this public announcement be placed in the minutes of this meeting."

ROLL CALL INDICATED:

PRESENT:	Jim Schatzle, Linda Stagliano, Dr. Boak, Pam Sokoler, Liz Iacono, Jeff Reisinger, Dr. McCollum, Dr. Singh
ABSENT:	Annemarie Delle Donne
ALSO PRESENT:	Tom Frank, Mayor Tara Torchia Buss and Christine Eschert

Reorganization – Tom Frank requested nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. Jim Schatzle was unanimously reappointed as Chair and Pam Sokoler unanimously reappointed as Vice-Chair. Christine Eschert will continue to be the Secretary for the Board of Health. The Board welcomed the newest member, Dr. Mark McCollum.

Meeting Dates 2025 Board of Health – All 2025 BOH meeting dates were approved and the Board will continue to meet in the Library located at 2 Veterans Way, Colts Neck Township.

Meeting Minutes – Jim Schatzle made a motion to approve the October 1, 2024 meeting minutes and this motion was approved by Dr. Boak, seconded by Pam Sokoler and unanimously carried.

Old Business – There was no old business to discuss.

New Business – Health Officer's Report:

- The seniors flu vaccination clinic was held on Wednesday October 2, 2024 at their monthly Seniors Club meeting that took place at Colts Neck Firehouse #2. With the help of the Colts Neck Pharmacy, 49 seniors were vaccinated with the high dose vaccine.

- Our re-scheduled rabies vaccination clinic was held on Saturday November 9, 2024 at Bucks Mill Park. There was a moderate turnout with 17 dogs and 1 cat vaccinated.

- All 33 of our brick-and-mortar food establishments have been inspected in 2024. All were issued a satisfactory rating except for 2, which were issued a conditional satisfactory rating and needed to be formally reinspected. Overall, they are doing a good job.

- The Board requested that Mr. Frank research if other Health Depts. post retail food establishment ratings for public view, and if this would be something that may be viable for us to pursue.

- The Express Auto Spa car wash on Route 34 in Colts Neck is now open for business. No formal word on when the other commercial building on the property will start construction.

- We have had a rash of communicable disease outbreaks in our schools and long-term care facility over the last few months, including pneumonia, Norovirus and COVID-19. We have been working closely with our local and state disease investigators to help prevent further spread of these easily transmitted diseases.

- The entire State is still under a Drought Warning. The State is still requesting that we all continue to conserve water. We have placed information in the library and on our township website on ways to conserve.

- As previously mentioned, all health departments in Monmouth County have been jointly working with 35th Street Consultants, through a grant, to develop an updated community health assessment and quality improvement plan. An executive summary of the plan should be coming out over the next month and Mr. Frank will forward a copy of the summary. This work is required by each health department in order to meet just one of the many State Health Dept. "Health Performance Standards".

- Mr. Frank recently learned that the State Health Dept. is now planning on auditing all local health departments every two years. The State is currently hiring and training additional auditors to perform that work.

- One additional wildlife animal tested positive for rabies over the last two weeks. That makes a total of three in the last six months: two raccoons and one fox. We placed communication out to residents on our web site and on our Smart 911 system to be aware of and report any animals showing abnormal behavior, as well as keeping a safe distance from all wildlife.

- The staff located on the first floor of the Town Hall Annex will be relocated upstairs to the second floor by the end of January. The Health Department office will continue to be located in that building as well.

- Laird and Company is looking to build a cultural center along with a taste testing area on their property in Colts Neck. They have submitted an application with the NJDEP to allow them to utilize their existing septic system for this project. The wastewater flow will need to be under 2,000 GPD in order to keep the project from needing further permits from the NJDEP.

Liaison Report – The Township Committee had their reorganization meeting on Friday, January 3, 2025. They are off to a good start for the new year. All Boards and Commissions are having their reorganization meetings this month. There will be an Affordable Housing/Planning Board meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 7:00 pm at Conover Rd. Primary School. The Board is looking for public feedback from the residents of Colts Neck.

Public Comment - None

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Schatzle at 8:00 p.m. and unanimously carried. The next scheduled meeting is February 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Eschert - Secretary