

**BOROUGH OF MOUNTAIN LAKES
COUNTY OF MORRIS, NJ**

**HEALTH COMMISSION MINUTES
September 13, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:33p.m. by Ms. O'Leary.

2. ROLL CALL

Commission members Dr. Leviss, MJ O'Leary, Dr. Katherine Roberts, Dr. Salari, Deb Shertzer, Mark Toppel and Yash Samat (student member) were in attendance, as well as Health Officer Mike Fitzpatrick, Assistant Health Officers Sarah Perramant, Board of Health Secretary Cara Fox and Council Liaison Chris Richter. Commission Member Dr. Barbara Girz was absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

With consent of the Commission, Chairperson O'Leary opened the meeting for public comment. There were no members of the public present who wished to address the Commission.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Ms. Shertzer, second by Dr. Leviss, to approve the Health Commission meeting minutes from May 3, 2022.

5. BOROUGH UPDATE

Ms. Fox reported the following: The Borough Flu Clinic will be scheduled sometime in October after the vaccine is received by the health department; The Borough Rabies Clinic is scheduled for December 9th from 5-6pm at the Department of Public Works (55 Pocono Road); The Borough Volunteer Recognition event is scheduled for December 12th.

6. HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

Mr. Fitzpatrick reviewed his reports from May through August 2022. The Commission asked questions to Mr. Fitzpatrick, and he answered them. Mr. Fitzpatrick will reach out to Mountain Lakes High School about reports of athletes cramping up and if they have experienced a problem with lead in their water.

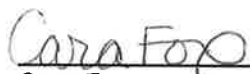
Mr. Fitzpatrick reported that he will be retiring by the end of the year.

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

Ms. O'Leary provided an update on the Stigma Free Initiative Trail Walk project. Ms. O'Leary advised that Woodlands Committee member Steve Hercek joined the last subcommittee meeting and has been helping with the project. The commission discussed what needs to be done to finalize the walk which is expected to take place over two weekends in October. Health Officer Perramant agreed to provide the health facts flyers and reach out to Rutgers University for assistance with ArcGIS to create QR codes for the walk. Mr. Samat agreed to speak with his mother who is an architect at Rutgers for help creating QR codes. Dr. Roberts will speak to Mr. Hercek about location for QR codes. The subcommittee will schedule a meeting to finalize the walk.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Ms. O'Leary, second by Mr. Toppel, to adjourn the meeting at 6:19p.m. with all members in favor signifying by "Aye".



**Cara Fox
Board of Health Secretary**

Borough of Mountain Lakes

BOARD OF HEALTH

400 BOULEVARD • MOUNTAIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY 07046
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May Health Department Activity Report – 2022

Our May 2022 report identifies the activities of the Health Officer, Health Department and staff and provides an overview of the various tasks completed by the department. Additional supplemental reports from Environmental, Nursing, and Health Education are forwarded to clarify activities.

Vaccine clinic needs are not desired by the public at this time, but we provide COVID vaccines to any individual or family that makes a request.

NEW FROM MAY

Guidance/Executive Orders:

- 5/5/22 - the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) limited the authorized use of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine to:
 - Individuals 18 years of age and older for whom other authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines are not accessible or clinically appropriate, and to
 - Individuals 18 years of age and older who elect to receive the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine because they would otherwise not receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Individuals should discuss the benefits and risks of COVID-19 vaccination brands with their healthcare provider to determine which vaccine is right for them.
- 5/16: NJDOH updated information on where to find COVID-19 testing.
- 5/17: NJDOH has updated information on COVID-19 therapeutic treatments and where to access them.
- 5/19: Everyone ages 5 and older who has completed their primary series is now eligible for a booster dose to further enhance their protection against the COVID-19 virus and its variants.

Recent Notable Updates:

- There has been a marked increase in COVID case counts throughout the state in the past two weeks. Additionally, a great number of schools and care facilities in our jurisdictions are experiencing COVID outbreaks. More information on these outbreaks can be found on the NJDOH COVID Data Dashboard under the "Schools" and "Long Term Care" tabs.

We participated in ongoing Zoom and Teams meetings with NJ Department of Health, County Agencies, LINCIS and Health Officers, still occurring as needed.

The Nursing Department continued to investigate the spike in cases especially any identified outbreaks in schools, nursing homes and senior citizen facilities and provides information on the guidance changes.

During this past month we have experienced a measurable increase in the level of COVID-19 activity, however, at the very end of the month the numbers began to level off.

As of May 27, 2022 Mt. Lakes has 18 cases with a 14-day look back as compared to April 27, 2022 15 cases and compared to March 30, 2022 4 cases. Thus, we can see the case levels have increased over the past two months. Hospitalizations and ICU COVID cases have been relatively stable over the past several weeks with a slight increase.

Activities

- Participate in meetings and ongoing guidance from NJDOH/CDC regarding best practices for quarantine and vaccine programs.
- Provided weekly COVID report by Friday with State updates, CALI Score and Charts.
- Continue to inform, discuss and answer questions from residents, business owners and agencies regarding issues that are important to them.
- Continue to monitor staff activities regarding public health inspections and complaints. (see environmental, health education and nursing reports)

Testing and Vaccination Sites:

Both public and private sites continue to operate limitedly throughout New Jersey.

Presently a majority of tests are being completed by individuals using rapid antigen tests instead of laboratory PCR tests.

Stay Well.

Respectfully Submitted,
F. Michael Fitzpatrick, Health Officer

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June Health Department Activity Report – 2022

Our June 2022 report identifies the activities of the Health Officer, Health Department and staff and provides an overview of the various tasks completed by the department. Additional supplemental reports from Environmental, Nursing, and Health Education are forwarded to clarify activities. Vaccine clinic needs are provided for COVID vaccines to any individual or family that makes a request.

NEW FROM JUNE

Guidance/Executive Orders:

- 6/13: NJDOH has updated the Public Health Recommendations and Guidance for Youth Sports. Learn more [HERE](#).
- 6/17: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the Pfizer vaccine for children 6 months through 4 years of age and the Moderna vaccine for children 6 months through 5 years of age. Read the state from Governor Murphy and Commissioner Persichilli [HERE](#).
 - Children under age 5 who receive the Pfizer vaccine for their age group will be given three doses at one-tenth the strength of adult doses, and children under age 6 who receive the Moderna vaccine for their age group will receive two doses at one-quarter the strength of an adult dose.

Recent Notable Updates:

- There was a continued increase in COVID case counts throughout the State in the first two weeks of June and then leveled off the last two weeks.

We participated in ongoing Zoom and Teams meetings with NJ Department of Health, County Agencies, LINCS and Health Officers as needed.

The Nursing Department continued to investigate cases especially any identified outbreaks in schools, nursing homes and senior citizen facilities.

As of June 24, 2022 Mt. Lakes has 21 cases with a 14-day look back as compared to May 27, 2022, 18 cases and compared to 15 on April 27, 2022. Thus, we can see the case levels have decreased over the past month, but is somewhat higher than April. Hospitalizations and ICU COVID cases have been relatively stable over the past several weeks with a slight increase.

Activities

- Participate in meetings and ongoing guidance from NJDOH/CDC regarding best practices for quarantine and vaccine programs.
- Provided weekly COVID report by Friday with State updates, CALI Score and Charts through June.
- Starting in July, bi-weekly reports will occur using CDC information and not NJ CALI Scores.

- Continue to inform, discuss and answer questions from residents, business owners and agencies regarding issues that are important to them.
- Continue to monitor staff activities regarding public health inspections and complaints. (see environmental, health education and nursing reports)

Testing and Vaccination Sites:

Both public and private sites continue to operate limitedly throughout New Jersey.

A majority of tests continued to be completed by individuals using rapid antigen tests instead of laboratory PCR tests.

Stay Well.

Respectfully Submitted,
F. Michael Fitzpatrick, Health Officer

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July Health Department Activity Report – 2022

Our July 2022 report identifies the activities of the Health Officer, Health Department and staff and provides an overview of the various tasks completed by the department during the month. Additional supplemental reports from Environmental, Nursing, and Health Education are forwarded to detail activities.

Vaccine clinic needs are provided for COVID-19 to any individual or family that makes a request.

Monkey Pox vaccine is provided to all who request vaccine that meet the NJDOH definition of a case or have been exposed.

NEW IN JULY

Guidance/Executive Orders:

- We have received the Pfizer & Moderna vaccines available for children ages 6 months to 4 years old from NJDOH. If you know a childcare facility or community location interested in hosting a clinic, please contact vdessources@bloomfieldtwpnj.com
- COVID vaccines for ages 6 months to adult are available in each community we serve: if sufficient requests are received to create a clinic we will create a date, location and advertise. Additionally, vaccines are available on a one on one basis at the Bloomfield Health Department (1 Municipal Plaza, Bloomfield) by appointment (973-680-4058) .

Monkey Pox vaccine is available through NJDOH channels for Local Health Departments when a case or a contact of a case is reported. We have answered multiple questions regarding Monkey Pox, vaccines and treatments. A few large-scale vaccine clinics have been opened by NJDOH which include: Jersey City, Newark, Asbury Park, Paramus and Camden.

Recent Notable Updates:

- There was a continued increase in COVID case counts throughout the State during July, but lower than May.

As of July 22, 2022 Mt Lakes has 15 cases with a 14-day look back as compared to 21 cases June 24, 2022, and 18 on May 27, 2022. Thus, we can see the case levels have been stable with minimal change Hospitalizations and ICU COVID cases have continued to be relatively stable over the past several weeks, with a slight increase recorded.

We participated in ongoing Zoom and Teams meetings with NJ Department of Health, County Agencies, LINCS and Health Officers as needed.

The Nursing Department continued to investigate cases with community implications, especially any identified outbreaks in camps, schools, nursing homes and senior citizen facilities.

Activities

- Participate in meetings for ongoing guidance from NJDOH/CDC regarding best practices for quarantine and vaccine programs.

- Provided biweekly COVID report by Friday with State updates, CDC Information and current EPI charts.
- Continue to inform, discuss and answer questions from residents, business owners and agencies regarding issues that are important to them.
- Continue to monitor staff activities regarding public health inspections and complaints. (see environmental, health education and nursing reports)

Testing and Vaccination Sites:

- Both public and private COVID sites continue to operate limitedly throughout New Jersey.
- Monkey Pox sites – five in New Jersey, call for an appointment (see State approved sites in municipalities above)

A majority of COVID tests currently used are rapid antigen tests due to: availability, approval and support by the Federal and State Governments, test to stay programs and simplicity of home testing.

Stay Well.

Respectfully Submitted,
F. Michael Fitzpatrick, Health Officer

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August Health Department Activity Report – 2022

Our August 2022 report reflects the activities of the Health Officer, Health Department and staff and provides an overview of the various tasks completed by the department during the month. Additional supplemental reports from Environmental, Nursing, and Health Education are forwarded to detail activities.

Vaccine clinic needs are provided for COVID-19 to any individual or family that makes a request.

NEW IN AUGUST

- 8/11: CDC Updated guidance for k-12 schools and early childcare and education programs. Learn more [HERE](#). We are still awaiting updated guidance from NJDOH at this time.
 - The recent updates are:
 - Removed the recommendation to cohort
 - Changed recommendation to conduct screening testing to focus on high-risk activities during high COVID-19 Community Level or in response to an outbreak
 - Removed the recommendation to quarantine, except in high-risk congregate settings, such as adult & acute care hospitals and similar settings.
 - Removed information about Test to Stay
 - Added detailed information on when to wear a mask, managing cases and exposures, and responding to outbreaks
- 8/17: Governor Murphy signed an Executive Order lifting routine COVID-19 testing requirements for school districts, child care settings, and state contractors.
 - Learn more [HERE](#).

Monkey Pox vaccine is provided to all who request vaccine that meet the NJDOH definition of a case or have been exposed. Therefore this vaccine continues to be available through NJDOH channels for Local Health Departments when a case or a contact of a case is reported. We have answered multiple questions regarding Monkey Pox, vaccines and treatments.

A few large-scale vaccine clinics have been opened by NJDOH which include:

- Eric B. Chandler Health Center 277 George St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 (732) 235-6733
- Hyacinth AIDS Foundation/Project Living Out Loud! Jersey City, NJ 07304 (201) 706-3480
- Neighborhood Health Services 1700 Myrtle Ave, Plainfield, NJ 07063 (908) 540-0229
- North Hudson Community Action Corporation 4800 Kennedy Blvd, Union City, NJ 07087
- North Hudson Community Action Corporation 70 Sip St, Jersey City, NJ 07306
- North Jersey Community Research Initiative (NJCRI) Newark, NJ 07103 (978) 483-3444 ext. 200
- Passaic County Health Department 930 Riverview Suite 250, Totowa, NJ 07512 (973) 811-4396
- University Hospital 140 Bergen St, Newark, NJ 07103 (973) 972-8906
- Zufall Health Center 18 W Blackwell St, Dover, NJ 07801 (973) 891-3419

COVID MONTHLY UPDATE

As of August 19, 2022 Mt Lakes has 6 cases with a 14-day look back as compared to 15 cases July 22, 2022, and 21 June 24, 2022. Thus, we can see the case levels have decreased significantly over the past two months. Hospitalizations and ICU COVID cases have continued to be relatively stable over the past several weeks, with a slight increase recorded.

We participated in ongoing Zoom and Teams meetings with NJ Department of Health, County Agencies, LINCS and Health Officers as needed.

The Nursing Department continued to investigate cases with community implications, especially any identified outbreaks in camps, schools, nursing homes and senior citizen facilities.

Activities

- Participate in meetings for ongoing guidance from NJDOH/CDC regarding best practices for quarantine and vaccine programs.
- Provided biweekly COVID report by Friday with State updates, CDC Information and current EPI charts.
- Continue to inform, discuss and answer questions from residents, business owners and agencies regarding issues that are important to them.
- Continue to monitor staff activities regarding public health inspections and complaints. (see environmental, health education and nursing reports)

Testing and Vaccination Sites:

- Both public and private COVID sites continue to operate limitedly throughout New Jersey.

A majority of COVID tests currently used are rapid antigen tests due to: availability, approval and support by the Federal and State Governments, test to stay programs and simplicity of home testing.

Stay Well.

Respectfully Submitted,
F. Michael Fitzpatrick, Health Officer