"A Historic Past"

"A Bright Future"

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CITY OF DELAWARE CITY
BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 at Delaware City Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 7:07 p.m. Those present included Deborah Crabtree, Councilperson Jennifer M. Sullivan, E. M. Donia Gonzales, and Stanley E. Green.

ACTION UPON MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan to accept the May 11, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Stan Green. However, Stan Green noted a section of the minutes that referenced one of the outstanding recommendations to Mayor and Council (Outstanding May 2010 Recommendations, page 2 of minutes). Stan Green wanted clarification on if the current language of the Code is accurate in terms of the Board of Health (Delaware City Code, Chapter 21, Article VII, Section 21-58. d.), and if the Board exercises this power, could that be a liability? Chairperson Crabtree indicated that she would call attention to that language at the next Mayor and Council meeting when she presented for the Board of Health.

COOL CITIES

Amy Roe representing Cool Cities Delaware gave a presentation on the initiative. The initiative would like to see if the Mayor of Delaware City would like to sign the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and Delaware City would be denoted as a "Cool City." Ms. Roe indicated that more information and the slide show presentation that was given can be found on the Cool Cities Delaware website (http://coolcitiesde.us/).

Discussion followed the presentation and it was decided that there would be more discussion at an upcoming Board of Health meeting to determine if the Board would make a recommendation to Mayor and Council to have the Mayor sign the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement for Delaware City to become a "Cool City."

SIREN TESTING

At a previous Board of Health meeting, it was suggested that the Board of Health research the emergency siren testing schedule so it could be posted. The testing schedule is available on the Delaware Emergency Management Agency website (http://dema.delaware.gov/images/Siren_test_Schedule.pdf). The last test date posted was for the day prior to this Board meeting. This is no longer an active Board of Health issue.

OLD BUSINESS

Air Quality test results

Chairperson Crabtree asked Sarah Bucic from the Delaware City Environmental Coalition (DCEC) who was present in the audience about the air quality test results. Ms. Bucic stated that the stage one testing was to determine a baseline and that the results are available on DCEC's website (http://greendelcity.org). Phase II testing is scheduled for March 2012. This is no longer an active Board of Health issue.

Sign for Park

Chairperson Crabtree stated she would check on the status of this recommendation at the next Mayor and Council meeting.

Recommendations to Mayor and Council for Code/Charter Amending: lift residency requirement for physician serving on BOH (possible member – Brian Chandler, D.C.); Renaming BOH; DCFC representative; Consistency; Additional Seats for BOH; enhance animal control regulations

The outstanding Board of Health recommendations to Mayor and Council regarding revisions to the Board of Health Article and Animal Regulation Chapter of the Delaware City Code and the Delaware City Charter were discussed. Outstanding recommendations are as follows:

Outstanding June 2010 Recommendation

The Charter and Code, in X.10-02.A. and VII.21-52. respectively, be amended to lift the residency requirement for a physician serving on the Board of Health.

Outstanding May 2010 Recommendations

The Board of Health be renamed "The Board of Health and Safety." The revised name would be more representative of our role as cited in the Charter - X.10-02.B. "The Board of Health ... shall report to the Mayor and Council in writing whatever in its judgment is injurious to the health and **safety** of the citizens and shall make recommendations to the Mayor and Council..." and as cited in the Code- VII.21-58.d. "The Board shall have the power to require reports and information from any school, hospital or other institution, or from any physician, undertaker or other individual regarding conditions of health and **safety**."

Revised

The Charter and Code, in X.10-02.A. and VII.21-52. respectively, be amended to require that at least one of the members of the Board of Health be a representative of the Delaware City Fire Company or have a representative from the DCFC Chief's Office attend and serve as an advisor.

Outstanding March 2010 Recommendations

The Charter be amended to so that it is consistent with the Code to state there "**shall**" be a Councilperson on the Board of Health. Currently, the Charter (X.10-02.A.) states, "The Board of Health ... and one of whom ***may*** be a Councilperson, who is assigned to the Board of Health." In contrast, the Code (VII.21-52.) states: "One member ***shall*** be the Councilperson of Delaware City in charge of the Board of Health..."

The Charter (X.10-02.A.) and Code (VII.21-51.) be amended to permit 7 persons (versus the current limit of 5) to be more similar to other committees such as Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission. This would allow additional persons from the Fire Department, Police Department and other interested key players to be involved in the Board of Health.

Outstanding April 2010 Recommendation (revised)

Recommends that Mayor and Council review, refine and strengthen Chapter 24 of the Code, "Animal Regulation Code." Recommendation to enhance to a leash law, language on leash laws can be found in New Castle County Code:
http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=11287&stateId=8&stateName=Delaware

Chairperson Crabtree will ask the city solicitor again for clarification on the definition of "citizen." It says, "...must be **residents** of Delaware City..." in the Charter and, "...all members shall be **citizens** of the City of Delaware City," in the Code; and ask if Mayor and Council has the ability to waive this restriction (in this case, for Dr. Chandler). Also inquire if just being a property owner in Delaware City is sufficient.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Citizen Corps

Stan Green asked for a brief explanation of Citizen Corps which was provided by Chairperson Crabtree and E. M. Donia Gonzales. Chairperson Crabtree said she would forward additional information. E. M. Donia Gonzales said she would also invite a representative to come to a future Board of Health meeting. Dave Carpenter who is a DCFC 15 member is involved in this initiative.

Delaware City Cat Population

This was tabled until the next meeting as Councilperson Jennifer M. Sullivan had left the meeting prior to this agenda item and is interested in this issue.

Animal Issues; inclusion in DC Newsletter

Chairperson Crabtree brought up the previous suggestion about the use of penalty funds for something like a dog run. City Manager Cathcart who was present in the audience and he didn't think this would be a good fit as use of the funds requires a description of the environmental benefit. Delaware City is

eligible for these funds as the city is an area if infraction but this particular topic does not seem applicable. City Manager Cathcart also noted that anyone who has an issue regarding animal control they could always come talk to him during "Coffee with the City Manager," held the first and third Monday of each month at Riverfront Coffee Shop from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Animal control suggestions have appeared in previous editions of the city newsletter.

Vacant Properties Follow Up; Rental Licensing and Inspection Program

Chairperson Crabtree indicated that we used to get reports from the Chief of Police regarding the status of vacant properties. A discussion followed about the authority of the city versus the authority of the county and City Manager Cathcart indicated that the city will be working in these issues and determining who has the authority to inspect and cite violations. This is no longer an active Board of Health issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Crabtree adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.