Meeting called by: Christine Harris, President
Call to order: 10:50 a.m.
Pledge of Allegiance

Motion for Approval of October 6, 2018 meeting minutes 1st Dr. Harris Levine and 2nd Steve Papenberg, unanimously approved.

Members Present: Christine Harris, Harris Levine, Ken McCormick, Steve Papenberg, Paul Roman, Michael Richmond, Bob Uhrik and Rochelle Evans.

Members Absent: John Saccenti, Valarie Williams, Jo Hochman and Nancy Wilson.

President’s Announcements:
• Recreational Marijuana
• Orientation Manual
• Annual Awards Dinner

Discussion Topics:

Membership Committee: Steve Papenberg: The renewal applications for membership will be going out early next year. We need more of the trifold membership brochures, previously purchased from Vista Print. Motion to print approximately 1000 or more; Paul motioned and 2nd by Ken and unanimously approved.

Communication: Christine verified the newsletter’s path of distribution with John via phone conference call. Letters will also be re-distributed.

NJLBOH Annual Awards Dinner will be held on December 6, 2018; deadline for nominations is November 15th. Paul notified the board that at the last PHACE meeting no one knew about the up-coming dinner. It was posted in the last special edition newsletter but apparently it never went out to PHACE. Newsletter will be redistributed.

Reports by Ex-Officio Members: Bob Uhrik - Reported that the new president of NJEHA is Lynette Medeiros; they are planning their presentations at the League of Municipalities in Atlantic City.

PHACE: Paul presented the new table cover with our logo which was purchased for our presentations. 501-C3 amalgamation of PHACE was not possible. SHIP State Health Improvement Plan should be in sync with CHIPS, Community Health Improvement Plans and Hospital Plans.
NJPHA and American Heart Association are working on a bill to tax sugar sweetened beverages.

**Treasurer’s Report:** As of September 30th, $13,310.36. Expenditure of $150.00 for payment to Anne Marie for data work and the newsletter. Motioned for payment made by Ken McCormick and 2nd by Paul Roman. Final balance: $12,689.68. Motion to approve expenses for Awards dinner not to exceed more than 10% of last year’s meeting. Motion by Steve, 2nd by Harris.

**Marijuana Position Paper:** Discussed the recently issued draft “Public Health Associates’ Collaborative Effort PHACE” and the subject flier

**Other Business/Open Discussion:** Ken McCormick raised the issue of the new requirement of local DOH’s to issue documents to every person who issues a dog license. This new requirement places new demands and a burden of expense on local health departments.

Next Meeting is Dec. 8th and the Award dinner is on December 6th. The nominating committee will phone conference with Steve, Paul, Christine and John.

A motion for adjournment was made by Ken McCormick 2nd by Paul Roman at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rochelle Evans,

November 3, 2018

To: Kevin Sumner, PHACE Facilitator

From: Christine Harris, President

Subject: Position Paper - STATEMENT OF LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA IN NEW JERSEY

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the recent discussions by PHACE on the creation of subject documents. As agreed by representative Paul Roman at yesterday’s November 2nd PHACE meeting, here is our position in regard to same.

The NJLBHA respectfully declines to endorse the recently distributed Statement on Legalization of Marijuana In New Jersey produced by PHACE. Our Executive Board voted at our November 3, 2018 meeting to decline endorsement because there are significant issues within the document. Specifically, with regard to the “addictive” nature of marijuana, and with respect to the fact that the scope of this paper and the language therein includes extraneous items such as “synthetic marijuana like drugs” and “decriminalization” are the key issues on which we based this decision.

We value being at the table as a part of the discussion and a part of future outcome evaluations. We agree with the statement “As local public health professionals, we are concerned with the pace of this initiative and we urge caution and further research, as well as the routine involvement of the public health community in any future actions.”

Because of the diverse make up of our membership, it would be inappropriate for us to take a position in support of the PHACE Statement on Legalization of Marijuana in New Jersey. We appreciate the opportunity for in-put and we do approve of the flier “Marijuana and Public Health Take Time to Make the Right Decision”. This document is a good opening for discussion by those charged with the responsibility of crafting legislation in New Jersey.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding.

Best wishes for the holidays.

Christine Harris
President, NJLBHA