



## **JERSEY LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

### **Regular Meeting Location**

#### **South Brunswick Municipal Building**

540 Ridge Avenue \* South Brunswick, New Jersey

P.O. Box 5069 \* Kendall Park, NJ 08824

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM)**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**February 18, 2023 \* 10 am \* By Zoom**

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**Order of EXCOM:** Roman, Saccenti, Valas, Papenberg, DiFerdinando, Grayson, Uhrik

**Past Presidents:** Harris, Laura O'Reilly–Stanzilis

1. **Call to Order** at 10:07 am
2. **Salute to the Flag**
3. **Attendance**
  - Voting EXCOM Members Present – Paul Roman, John Saccenti, Joan Valas, Steve Papenberg, George DiFerdinando, Robert Uhrik
  - Past Presidents Present (other than Elected Officers) – Christine Harris, Laura O'Reilly–Stanzilis
  - Staff Present (Legal Counsel, Paid Secretary, Webmaster, Interns) – Julie Moy
  - Liaisons Present –
  - Guests Present – Ken Laloma (Dept. of Health), Steve Ember (Middlesex Board of Health) and Maryelena Vargas (Englewood)
  - Excused – Jeremy Grayson
  - Absent – Diana Lachman
4. **Approval of Minutes** of Previous Meeting(s) – January 21, 2023 – MSP: DiFerdinando, Papenberg
5. **Secretary's Report** – Including Correspondence – None
6. **President's Report**

President Roman reported that he spoke with Dr. Grayson; Saturday meetings are difficult for him to attend, however, he will assist with membership cultivation.

President Roman reported on the American Public Health Association's year end voting record of the Congressional delegations from each State, Senate and House. Our Congress Person Districts except for Jefferson Van Drew (Cape May and Atlantic Counties), Chris Smith (Monmouth, Ocean, & Mercer Counties), all voted no on all public health issues.

President Roman read a few sentences from an article discussing about health disparities from the American Public Health Association's newspaper, *Nation*.

President Roman reported that as of May 11, 2023, the White House announced that all Federal Emergency Declarations put forth by various federal agencies will terminate. This means a lot of grants and assistance will end. The Health Department grants will terminate June 30, 2023. Since this meeting, an extension of one year for supplemental vaccine grant and strengthening capacity grant have been announce and the big ELPHC grant applications for a second year has been announced.



President Roman reported that he forwarded an article from the de Beaumont Foundation which explains what was put forth by the Federal Government and what will happen. President Roman suggested everyone read the article. There were continued discussions regarding the funding and the difficulties in spending the funds.

President Roman reported that Karen Bluminfeld asked NJLBHA to participate in the County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (CHR&R) project. President Roman and Dr. DiFerdinando participated in some sessions. NJLBHA received \$300 for their participation.

President Roman reported that Rutgers University's School of Public Health put out their Impact Report. This report explained what they have done in the past year. He sent the report for members to review.

President Roman reported that he received correspondence from Debbie Whalen, Secretary and Registrar for the Norwood Board of Health; she asked what the process would be if they chose to host board meetings virtually. President Roman read his affirmative response to her inquiry.

President Roman reported that February 27, 2023 will be *Trenton Advocacy Day* at the State House. This was initiated by Linda Brown and NJ Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO). She reached out to each of the PHACE organizations. Lisa Gulla sent an email blast encouraging people to sign up.

#### *NJ Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO)*

Ms. Stanzilis reported that they are in the planning phase for the *PHACE of Public Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* event on April 20, 2023

#### *NJ Public Health Association (NJPHA)*

President Roman reported that NJPHA's Annual Conference will be held on April 21, 2023 held live and hybrid at Mercer Community College. The event will include an awards ceremony. President Roman and Dr. DiFerdinando will be honored at this event. He spoke to Lisa Gulla about hosting a table at this event.

President Roman reported that in the February issue of the *League Magazine*, there was an article about community involvement, co-authored by Linda Schwimmer from the Quality Institute. There was information on the winners of the Champion of Health Award. President Roman congratulated all the award winners.

#### **7. Executive Vice President's Report – John Saccenti**

Mr. Saccenti addressed the continued issue he is experiencing with the NJ Environmental Health Association. NJEHA refuses to post training programs offered by his company or any other organizations offering training. They are only posting Rutgers' University trainings. Ms. Stanzilis reported that she spoke with them in regard to this issue; they informed her they will not post trainings from for profit organizations. Mr. Saccenti is asking this Association to send them a letter to help us to fulfill our mandate to provide training. President Roman and Dr. DiFerdinando told Mr. Saccenti that this is not a NJLBHA matter. President Roman will not support Mr. Saccenti's request.



8. **Treasurer's Report** – Steve Papenberg

Mr. Papenberg provided the financial report.

9. **Presentation and Approval of Bills**

Ms. Chelenza's invoice for \$955 is outstanding.

The motion was made to authorize the payment to Ms. Chelenza: MSP: Papenberg; DiFerdinando

10. **Legal Counsel's Report**

President Roman reported that he sent NJLBHA information to John Wisniewski, former Deputy Speaker for the State Assembly and Joseph Falk, Esq. Partner at Moskowitz & McGown & Associates. He will meet with Mr. Wisniewski on March 6, 2023 (now March 20) to further discuss. President Roman will see if he can attend the March meeting.

11. **Committee Reports**

A. By-Laws – No report

B. *Finance*

President Roman reported that he submitted several versions of a grant request to NJACCHO to help cover Ms. Chelenza's fees with the purpose of marketing, education and updating our website. He is still waiting for a response.

C. *Membership*

We have 19 membership renewals; 13 letters were returned undeliverable. President Roman and Mr. Saccenti edited and reprinted the membership cards and will be shipped directly to Mr. Papenberg to send out. President Roman will review and edit Mr. Papenberg's letter and provide him with copies to use.

D. *Legislative*

President Roman reported that there is nothing new to report for the Public Health Priority Funding bills we are interested in: S2413 and its companion Bill, A4115 in the Assembly. We need help to secure support for the Bills. President Roman is also requesting assistance to defeat the Oroho Bill (S672); this Bill will permit those towns with less than 30,000, to appoint the Governing Body as their Board of Health. Our position is to suggest to the Governing Body to create an Advisory Board of Health. This is an opportunity to offer training to both groups.

*Cannabis Consumption Lounges*

President Roman was asked to write a comment opposing the Cannabis Consumption Lounges; it goes against the Smoke Free Air Act. Per Dr. DiFerdinando, there are challenges in a number of Municipalities to get around the Smoke Free Air Act. There was discussion on public consumption. Dr. DiFerdinando will provide input to President Roman.

E. Communications – Including Newsletter(s) and Website – None

F. *Audit*

President Roman and Mr. Papenberg will meet to do the annual internal audit and create the draft 2023 budget.

G. Nominating (as necessary) – None



**12. Liaison Reports – None**

**13. PHACE Report**

President Roman reported that PHACE is still in the midst of incorporating. He and Don Weinbaum are working on the By-Laws. The By-Laws will help form the proposed structure of PHACE. President Roman reported that PHACE is working with Acenda Integrated Health, the Incubator for the NJ Public Health Institute. Melissa Fox, COO from Acenda is the leading Institute development including the selection of a Board of Directors.

President Roman has been appointed by Governor Murphy to Public Health Council (PHC) along with Carol Chamberlain, a retired Health Officer. There are three additional candidates. President Roman was asked to review and comment on a draft ordinance from Margaret Jahn and Dr. Conaway.

**14. Old Business**

*Internship Program – Montclair University*

President Roman asked Ms. Valas for an update. She has new contact information and will forward to President Roman. The School for Public Health is currently recruiting for a new Dean, which can cause delays.

*Grants*

President Roman pulled a list of grantors from Sustainable Jersey; these organizations has each given them funding. He asked members to reach out to contracts s/he may have to try to get grant specs; we need funding and members.

**15. New Business – None**

**16. Educational Presentation** (as necessary)

**17. General Discussion**

*Public discussion:*

Ken Laloma did not have any comments.

Maryelena Vargas posted in the chat, contact information for internship possibility from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Dr. Bojana Beric-Stojic is the Director of the MPH program and her email is: bstojic@fdu.edu and phone 973-443-8411. Ms. Vargas is a professor at Fairleigh Dickenson University.

**18. Announcement:** Next Meeting is Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10 am.

**19. Adjournment:** The motion was made to adjourn at 11:41 am; MSP: DiFerdinando, Harris

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Julie M. Moy  
Recording Secretary