

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM

President Cabuhat stated that notice of this meeting held via Zoom was posted on the Bergenfield Website, sent by e-mail to the Record and Cablevision in compliance with the "The Open Public Meetings Act". It was placed on one Bulletin board in the Municipal Building and placed on file in the Borough Clerk's office.

ROLL CALL

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Nath
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Ms. Aquino-absent
- Mr. Rivera

Also Present, AnneMarie Delacruz , Liz Cruz absent, Jim Fedorko, Susan Barker councilman Hernando Rivera was absent.

Mr. Cabuhat, introduced the new Board members and requested that they introduce themselves.

OPEN HEARINGS

Mrs. Stanton, referred to the rodent infestation problem that was taken care of but said she saw two red fox in her backyard Sue told her that they are lucky and protected and if they are seen during the day or approaching people it is possible that they are ill and if that is the case animal control should be contacted who will track them down. Mrs. Nath added that she saw a fox in the Rite Aid parking lot too.

There being no one present who wished to be heard on a motion made by Dr. Cheriyan and Seconded by Mr. Rivera the time for Open Hearings was closed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Cheriyan seconded by Mr. Rivera and carried that the minutes of the regular meeting of **January 2026** be accepted as written.

BILLS TO BE PAID

Mrs. Delacruz stated that on behalf of President Cabuhat, Purchase Orders have been signed by Mrs. Delacruz and submitted. A motion was made by Dr. Cheriyan and seconded by Mr. Cabuhat and carried that the following bills were reviewed and approved.

Control Solutions -	\$ 85.83
Control Solutions -	\$ 69.00
Cooper Pest Control-	\$ 1,174.08
Dr. Rothenberg-	\$ 3,000.00
Madharshini DeLaCruz-	\$ 209.25
Scott Graphics	-\$ 805.00
Stericycle-	\$ 1,123.91

REPORTS

Legal and Finance

"No Report"

Medical

Dr. Cheriyan mentioned a spike in flu, RSV and some covid cases. He stated the decision to vaccinate is between the patient and the physician.

Personnel

"No Report"

Publicity

The Board of Health meeting was advertised on the Bergenfield Website, The Record and Cablevision.

Liaison To Mayor & Council

"No Report"

Legislature & Regulatory

"No Report"

Written Reports of the Department

Sue mentioned to the new members that reports are not discussed in detail but she mentioned that there were two items that she would like to point out. She stated that Bergenfield has a large number of retail food establishments coming into town most of them are some small mom and pop, many of these new places require drawings and approvals from the building and health Department, final approvals take about 3-4 weeks or longer. She told the members that if they had any questions, they could reach out to her.

She mentioned the second item were the bars in town one which is Republic 23 a nightclub which has been in Bergenfield since 2020 and have been closed since 2024 but in November they had informed Mrs. Delacruz that they are planning to reopen, there has been ongoing discussion between Administration and the building department and the police department if they should be permitted to be reopened since there have been several complaints and issues with them in the past. Sue also informed Mrs. Stanton that the rat issue complaint at Porter was closed out. Mr. Fedorko thanked the members of the Board for volunteering their time. He referred to his report and explained details of the communicable diseases, food borne illnesses and tick-borne illnesses. He explained that food borne illnesses are associated with travel.

He said Ehrlichiosis showed up for the first time in Bergenfield - and mentioned that it is a tick-borne illness, he also discussed that Pertussis cases have been increasing and discussed this in detail. He referred to the death reports and mentioned that a compilation of the death reports will be done to see what people in Bergenfield are dying from and then decide on what needs to be focused on health education. Mr. Fedorko thanked the members for hiring them for another year.

A motion was made by Dr. Cheriyan and seconded by Mr. Rivera and carried that the written reports for **January 2026** be accepted as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. DeLaCruz stated there was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. De La Cruz mentioned the meeting dates for 2026. Dr. Cheriyan made a motion to read the Resolution 2026-001 for the meeting dates which was read by Mrs. DeLaCruz and passed by all members present.

Roll Call

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Aquino - absent
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Rivera
- Mrs. Nath

Dr. Cheriyan made a motion to read the second resolution seconded by Mrs. Nath which was read by Mrs. DeLaCruz. Resolution 26-002 to approve meeting notices to The Record, Cablevision, Twinboro and the Bergenfield Borough website to receive meeting notices. Resolution passed by all members present.

Roll Call

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Aquino - absent
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Rivera
- Mrs. Nath

Dr. Cheriyan made a motion to read resolution 26-003 which was the approval of the contract between Mid- Bergen Regional Health Commission and the Borough of Bergenfield commencing January 1st - December 31, 2026. Resolution was passed by all members present.

Roll Call

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Aquino - absent
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Rivera
- Mrs. Nath

Dr. Cheriyan made a motion to read resolution 26-004 which was for the medical services agreement between the Borough of Bergenfield and Dr. Nancy Rothenberg for January 01, 2026- December 31, 2026 Resolution was passed by all members present.

Roll Call

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Aquino - absent
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Rivera
- Mrs. Nath

Dr. Cheriyan made a motion to read resolution 26-005 which was to adopt the by-laws for Board Members for 2026. Resolution was passed by all member present.

Roll Call

- Dr. Cheriyan
- Mrs. Aquino - absent
- Mr. Cabuhat
- Mr. Rivera
- Mrs. Nath

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

“No Report”

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. De La Cruz mentioned that there is a problem with the processing of dog licenses with the new system. She said the town wants to do all on line but most senior citizens who don't have online services are unable to get their licensing done unless they come in to the town. She needed suggestions from the Board since she really does not know how this could be handled. She mentioned 700 dog licenses a year are done and not everyone is getting the email and 250 calls had to be made back in 2025 for unlicensed dogs. Dr. Cheriyan suggested that a hybrid model should be adopted. This was discussed in detail. Mrs. Nath said that the senior citizens should be considered. Mrs. DeLaCruz stated that 72 residents including 4 out of town residents attended the Rabies clinic. It was well organized by the DPW.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Dr. Cheriyan seconded by Mrs. Nath and carried, that the meeting be adjourned Sine Die at 8:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Annemarie DeLaCruz
Registrar of Vital Statistics*

The Board then proceeded to reorganize for 2026

ROLLCALL

Dr. Cheriyan
Mrs. Aquino- absent
Mr. Cabuhut
Mrs. Nath
Mr. Rivera

Also, present Mrs. DeLaCruz

Mr. Cabuhut appointed Mrs. DeLaCruz as Temporary Chairperson.

Mrs. DeLaCruz opened the floor for nominations for the office of President. Nomination was made by Mr. Rivera that Mr. Cabuhut be elected as President.

Mr. Cabuhut was elected President on a motion by Dr. Cheriyan seconded by Mr. Rivera and carried, the nominations for the office of President was closed.

Mrs. Delacruz opened the floor for nomination for the office of Vice President. Nomination was made by Mrs. Nath that Dr. Cheriyan be elected Vice President.

Nomination was made by Dr. Cheryian that Mrs Aquino be elected as Vice- President. There being no further nomination, Mrs. Aquinio was nominated as Vice -President.

Dr. Cheriyan made a motion seconded by Mr. Cabuhut and carried, the nominations for the office of Vice President is closed.

Mrs. DeLaCruz opened the floor for nomination for the office of Secretary. Nomination was made by Mr. Cabuhut Mr. Rivera be elected Secretary. There being no further nomination, on a motion by Dr. Cheriyan seconded by Mr. Cabuhut and carried, the nominations for the office of Secretary is closed.

The chair was then turned over to President Mr. Cabuhut

President Cabuhut made the following committee appointments:

Legal & Finance- Mr. Rivera
Medical – Dr. Cheriyan
Personnel – Ms. Aquino
Publicity- Mrs. Delacruz
Liaison to Mayor & Council- Councilman Rivera
Legislative & Regulatory- Mrs. Nath

There being nothing further to come before the Board, on a motion by Vice-President Pfannen seconded by Mr. Cabuhut and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm