

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

The Watertown BioSafety Committee has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on Thursday February 6, 2025 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Brad Parsons, Mia Lieberman, Deb McEwan, Tim Maguire, Ralph Mele, Maureen Foley, Clerk,

In attendance: Vania Estanek, David Proia, Patrick Stoney, Taronish Dubash, Sibhon Branch, Emma West, Corey Martin, Meghan Rego

CALL TO ORDER: Brad Parsons called the meeting to order 7:02 pm

Minutes

Minutes approvals for January 9, 2025

All Approved (5,0)

Public Comment

No Public Comments

Amendment Applications:

Addgene, Inc.-490 Arsenal Way #100A

Meghan Rego, Director of Antibodies gave a short presentation of the company's amendment. Mr. Parsons questioned the process of destroying tests that are not needed. This amendment will not go in front of the BOH.

Digital Biology, Inc – 313 Pleasant Street #2E

Emma West, Co-founder, gave a short presentation of the company's amendment. Dr. Lieberman asked if Digital is acquiring nervous system tissue lines. Dr. West responded with Digital does not use fresh tissue. Dr. McEwan questioned the use of NHP tissues and where they are purchased from and if the tissues are fixed. This amendment will not go in front of the BOH.

Acrivon Therapeutics-480 Arsenal Way #100

Taronish Dubash, Scientist, gave a short presentation of the company's amendment. Dr. McEwan stated your application states the use of lentivirus in the future. Acrivon is presently using lenti before the WBSC approved. Mr. Parsons asked about Acrivon's timetable. Dr. Lieberman inquired about the additional PPE when using lenti. This amendment will not go in front of the BOH.

Other Business:

New and renewal applications renewal process

Dr. Lieberman stated additional check boxes are needed with this year's renewal. WBSC wants to add the community member affiliation and/or residency.

Items that were not anticipated before publication of this agenda:

Low risk registration cell lines:

The discussion of what cell lines are allowed with a registration. What if a lab is receiving regulated material and freezing them until use. WBSC considered allowing a registration with enhancements ie emergency response, occupational health, etc. Dr. McEwan questioned if storing the material and taking it out to use covers the safety issue. Mr. Martin stated HEK293 lines are permanent lines. Dr. Lieberman stated HEK293 has many uses. HEK293 is used in both BSL1(Registration) and BSL2 (Permit) labs. Dr. McEwan asked what is the parameter when not being used in packaging. Mr. Parsons stated he is comfortable with Jeevan applying as a registration. Dr. McEwan and Mr. Parsons stated the registrations that fall in the gray areas should be asked to come in front of the committee. Dr. Maguire agrees with that statement and to evaluate the risk factors.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be March 6, 2025

Adjourn

Adjourned at 8:09 PM