

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

September 18, 2019

Watertown Administration Building, Third Floor Conference Room

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Chairperson and Dr. Barbara Beck, Secretary; Excused Richard Arnold, Board Member.

Staff: Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health; Kristel Bennett, Chief Environmental Health Officer

In attendance: Dr. Heather McManus, Technical Advisor, Biotechnology Regulations.

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Straus called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

Minutes

Minutes of the July 17, 2019 meeting were approved (Beck, Straus 2nd) 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Discussion on Flavor Tobacco / Nicotine Delivery Device Flavors

At the request of the Board, Dr. Lester Hartman presented his concerns on flavored tobacco products and nicotine delivery device flavors. Dr. Hartman presented products he had purchased at tobacco retailers within Watertown. Dr. Hartman reviewed a packet of materials he presented to the Board. These materials included information concerning the teen vaping epidemic, which comprises of H. 1902 an act regulating flavored tobacco products including mint and menthol and supporting documentation. Dr. Hartman requested that the Board support the proposed act to completely ban all flavored tobacco products and he requested the Board adopt regulations to ban all flavored tobacco products including mint and menthol flavors except unflavored products. The Board requested to continue this discussion concerning flavored tobacco and nicotine delivery device flavors at the October Board meeting.

City Works Eatery & Pour House – 485 Arsenal Street, Variance Request – Food Code 6-202.15(A)&(D) Outer Opening Protected

The Board heard the application of a variance request to allow outer opening windows with no protection, from Food Code 6-202.15(A)&(D) for City Works Eatery & Pour House at 485 Arsenal Street. Larry Ramdin presented the request to the Board and his concerns of open windows and protecting food from environmental contaminants and pests.

Tristan Dacre Architect of Dacre and Youngquist, representing City Works Eatery & Pour House, presented the application to the Board. Mr. Dacre described the operable windows and

the operation of the establishment. The operable windows will have a knee wall, air curtains will be used at kitchen entry doors, and openings in walls will be fully sealed to prevent rodent entry. The air curtains located at the kitchen entrances will be activated by a contact switch when the doors are opened. City Works Eatery & Pour House will be utilizing a cleaning company that cleans the establishment nightly. The operable windows will be opened when it is seasonally appropriate, temperatures between 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit. City Works Eatery & Pour House will maintain a pest control contract that provided monthly treatment or more often as required by conditions.

Following further discussion, Dr. Beck offered the following motion: **to grant a variance to City Works Eatery & Pour House at 485 Arsenal Street from the requirements of Food Code 6-202.15(A)&(D) for outer openings protected, to allow for open air windows under the following conditions: First, there shall be contact switches to activate air curtains to entrances kitchen when the doors and windows are open, the shut off switch for the air curtains shall be located in the manager's office. Second, the establishment shall make every effort to control airborne contaminants. Third, the establishment should make every effort to ensure there are no pests inside the establishment including birds. Fourth, the establishment shall ensure all food and non-food contact surfaces are kept clean. Fifth, during service, the pantry service area shall be cleaned at least once every four hours. Failure to comply with the listed conditions shall result in the revocation of the variance.** Motion was seconded by Dr. Straus, 2-0.

Review of Draft Biotechnology Regulation 9-13-2019 Redline

The Board reviewed the Draft Biotechnology Regulation 9-13-2019 Redline version. The Board (with input from Dr. McManus and Larry Ramdin) discussed the draft and made edits to the Draft Biotechnology Regulation 9-13-2019 Redline version. Dr. McManus advised that she has received communication of concerns for the permitting of BSL 3 facilities within the community. Dr. Beck motioned to have Mr. Ramdin incorporate these edits to the Draft Biotechnology Regulation 9-13-2019 Redline version and have the final draft available to vote upon at the next Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Dr. Straus, 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. (Motion Dr. Beck, seconded by Dr. Straus 2-0)

Respectfully submitted: Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health

Approved: