

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

September 24, 2018

Watertown Administration Building, Third Floor Conference Room

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

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

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. John Straus called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Comment:

Town Council President, Mark Sideris was in support of Biotechnology Laboratories in the community and expressed his support for the Board to consider some type of regulations to ensure standards and safety is achieved within the community.

Mia Lieberman, who is a veterinarian, presented her concerns of the Biotechnology industry and the need for some type of standards. She expressed her concerns over a new development in the community that will potentially be having a Biotechnology Laboratory as a tenant.

Elodia Thomas discussed her concerns that there was no Biotechnology Regulation Program in place in the community, she had researched seven surrounding communities, and has drafted a memo to the community concerning Biotechnology Regulations.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 23, 2018 meeting were approved as amended (Motion- R. Arnold, Second- Dr. Beck, 3-0).

Jenifer Beauty Center, 19 Main Street

In consideration of Variance Request under Body Art Regulation

Present: Ning Han, Owner

Larry Ramdin presented Ms. Han's request for a variance from the requirements of the *Watertown Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners*, Section 6(A)(14) and Section 6(D)(1)-(4) for providing a cleaning area for the autoclave and ultrasonic cleaning unit, providing an autoclave, and providing an ultrasonic cleaning unit in your proposed body art establishment. Ms. Han discussed her background in cosmetic tattooing with the Board.

Following further discussion, Dr. Beck offered the following motion: **"To approve variance from the requirements of the *Watertown Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Body***

Art Establishments and Practitioners, Section 6(A)(14) and Section 6(D)(1)-(4) for providing a cleaning area for an autoclave and ultrasonic cleaning unit, providing an autoclave, and providing an ultrasonic cleaning unit at the proposed cosmetic tattoo establishment Jenifer Beauty Center located at 19 Main Street under the conditions that only single use sterile instruments and products will be stored, kept, and used on the premise. The reasons for granting this variance are as follows:

- 1. The Health Department has received a completed Body Art Establishment application for Jenifer Beauty Center.**
- 2. The Health Department has conditionally approved the Body Art Establishment application for Jenifer Beauty Center.**
- 3. Section 6(D)(7) of the *Watertown Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners* states in part that “If the body art establishment uses only single-use, disposable instruments and products, and uses sterile supplies, an autoclave shall not be required.**
- 4. The owner of Jenifer Beauty Center proposes to use only single-use disposable sterile instruments and supplies. The owner proposes that all hazardous waste generated from use of the instruments and supplies will be disposed by B&D Associates.**

The variance for Jenifer Beauty Center from the requirements of the *Watertown Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners, Section 6(A)(14) and Section 6(D)(1)-(4) for providing a cleaning area for the autoclave and ultrasonic cleaning unit, providing an autoclave, and providing an ultrasonic cleaning unit in a tattoo establishment may null and void in the event of:*

- Change of ownership**
- Renovations or remodeling to establishment**
- Deviance from approved plans**
- Violations of the *Watertown Board of Health Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners* including but not limited to the presence or use of multi-use instruments and products which have not been sterilized at your establishment.**

The variance shall be in writing. A copy of the variance shall, while it is in effect, be available to the public at all reasonable hours in the office of the town clerk or in the office of the Board of Health.” Motion was seconded by R. Arnold, and voted unanimously.

Arax Market, 585 Mt Auburn Street

In consideration of Suspension of Tobacco Sales Retail Permit

Present: Betty Bassmajian, Owner

L. Ramdin informed the Board that Arax Market had achieved compliance with the Health Department August 28, 2018 Tobacco Sales Permit Violation Order Letter by submitting a copy of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue Cigarette Excise Unit Retailer License to the Health Department. The Board discussed Arax Market’s late Tobacco Sales Permit application renewal and advised Ms. Bassmajian to be proactive if renewal notice for the Tobacco Sales Permit and Food Service Establishment Permit is not received. Ms. Bassmajian informed the Board that the establishment had trouble with Department of Revenue and obtaining the required certificate and that the establishment did not receive the certified piece of mail from the Health Department. The Board took no action to suspend Arax Market’s Tobacco Products Sales

Permit since compliance was achieved with the Health Department August 28, 2018 Tobacco Sales Permit Violation Letter, however the Board advised Ms. Bassmajian that any further violations with the *Watertown Regulation Regarding Smoking and the Sale and Use of Tobacco Products* may result in the suspension of your Tobacco Products Sales Permit.

Regulating Biological Research Laboratories

L. Ramdin, advised the Board that there are no specific regulations that deal with Biological Research laboratories in Watertown. Several of our neighboring communities have promulgated regulations to address concerns that may arise from these operations and that they are operated in a manner to mitigate risks to the community. He indicated that he has reviewed several of the regulations and Lexington's seem to be the most appropriate for Watertown. The Board discussed and was wondering if the regulation could be part of the Hazardous Materials regulations or a stand-alone regulation. Additionally, if a cost is affixed to permitting, should that cost be extended to all facilities that handle hazardous materials? They were also concerned as to how it conflicts with other town, State and Federal Rules that Biological research Laboratories must adhere to.

Mr. Ramdin, indicated that he can provide draft regulations for them to consider at their next meeting and he was advised to do so.

Program Planning and Priority Setting

The Board discussed and the matter will be continued at later meetings. They indicated that since there are variances requested by Body Art Practitioners for single use items that consideration should be given to amending the Body Art regulations to remove the requirement for disinfection autoclaves if the facility uses disposable instruments only.

Future Meeting Scheduling

The Board decided that moving forward meetings will continue on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm unless there is a scheduling conflict.

Department Updates

L. Ramdin, advise that Board that Erin Olson was hired as a Health Officer to replace Vivian Zheng. Ms. Olson graduated from Worcester State College with a BS in Public Health. She interned at the Marlborough Health Department, where she got to know and loved environmental Health practice. We welcome her to the Department.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 17.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m. (Motion **Richard Arnold**, second **Dr. Beck**, 3-0)

Respectfully submitted : Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health

Approved: October 17, 2018