

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

**The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Beck and Richard Arnold,

Staff: Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health, Maureen Foley, Head Clerk, Shuang Shen, Public Health Nurse.

In attendance: Elizabeth Gilbert, Greg Nyberg, Corey Martin, Eli Krauss, Taren Ong, Jackie VanLeeuwen

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Beck called the meeting to order 7:06 pm, Roll Call

Minutes

Minutes were approved for February 23, 2022 meeting,

Motions granted (Arnold, Beck) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Appoints a Health Officer

BOH was introduced to Shuang Shen, Public Health Nurse

Biosafety Permits

Myro Therapeutics - 155 Arlington Street

Taren Ong, Scientist gave a short presentation of the company's activities.

Motions granted (Beck, Arnold) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Landmark Bio, PBLLC – 300 North Beacon Street

Eli Kraus, BioSafety Officer gave a short presentation of the company's activities.

Motions granted with conditions that the new IBC minutes will be submitted, reviewed and approved by the health department prior to work being done. (Beck, Arnold) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Dr. McManus resigned from the Watertown Biosafety Committee. Dr. Lieberman will be Mr. Ramdin's designee. There will be one position to be filled on WBSC.

COVID Related Matters

COVID numbers are down. Ms. Shen stated health department has rapid tests available to employees. Dr. Beck stated at this point in time, hospitalizations and fatalities rates are better indicators of the rise and fall of COVID. Mr. Arnold mentioned due to home testing, the state COVID positive data is under reported.

Staffing and Department Updates

Health department is fully staffed. Our two new health officers have just completed and passed ServSafe class. They are ready to inspect food establishments.

The Acting City Manager needs to appoint the new Board of Health member to be approved by City Council and then the person needs to be sworn in by the City Clerk.

Items that could not be anticipated before the meeting

Mr. Ramdin stated Stephanie Venizelos, Wellness Manager/Farmers' Market will come to the Board of Health meeting to give a presentation.

Mr. Ramdin stated meetings should be in person this spring. Dr. Beck would like a hybrid formatted meetings. The State legislature has approved hybrid until July 15, 2022.

Adjourn:

Dr. Beck adjourned the meeting at 7:59 PM