

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

**The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Wednesday October 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Beck and Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj

Staff: Abbey Myers, Acting Director of Health Maureen Foley, Clerk

In attendance: Tim Maguire, Corey Martin, Emily Kuiper, Ayca Yalcin Ozkumur

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

Minutes

Minutes were not approved for September 20, 2023 meeting,
Will approve minutes at November's meeting

Public Comment

No Public Comments

WBSC Permitting Recommendations and Information on Review Process

Cyte One Biotechnologies – 199 Dexter Avenue

Ayca Yalcin Ozkumur, Director of R&D gave a short presentation of the company's activities. Dr. Beck asked what products do the cells secrete.

Dr. Amirtharaj made a motion to recommend approval of the biosafety permits for CyteOne .

(Amirtharaj, Beck) (2,0)

Roll Call

Health Department Permitted

AvenCell Therapeutics – 500 Forge Road Amendment

Emily Kuiper, Associate Member of Immuno Oncology gave a short presentation of the company's Viral and Gamma Vectors used in oncology to produce T-Cells. Dr. Beck inquired about the use of hoods dedicated to lentivirus. Dr. Amirtharaj explored the Gamma Retrovirus Vectors with Dr. Kuiper.

This was an informational presentation to the BOH.

Department Update

Abbey Myers, Acting Director of Health stated the department hired a new Per Diem Food Inspector. Health has hired a Health Officer primarily involved in rodent control throughout the city.

Flu vaccinations have been given to WFD, WPD, Housing Authority, Seniors and DPW employees. There are three clinics scheduled for the public to receive their vaccine.

Ms. Myers stated the Tobacco Collaborative will be inspecting this month. There has been major compliance.

Health has started permitting renewals for Food, Residential Kitchens, Annual Pools, Tobacco Sales, BioSafety, and Hens & Bees.

There was a food borne illness cases (3 separate incidents close together) at an establishment. The health department is working with the establishment to increase sanitation.

Items that could not be anticipated before meeting/future meetings

RSV testing is not done at the local level.

Adjourn:

(Amirtharaj, Beck) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Adjourned the meeting at 7:52 PM