



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

DOUGLAS KRESS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Meeting
April 25, 2019
165 Broadway, East Somerville

Present: Douglas Kress, Director
Brian Green, MD (Chair)
Paula Machado, Board Member
Robert Ciccio, Board Member
Kathy Teixeira, Recording Secretary

Absent: None

Staff Members in Attendance: Matthew Mitchell, Prevention Services Manager; Ben Lipham ISD/Health Division

Guests: Louis DiBiccari from Create Gallery

Meeting Called to Order: On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was called to order at 5:33pm. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio.

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Dr Green, the March 25, 2019 minutes were approved and accepted. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio. All in Favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Variance Hearing: Mr. DiBiccari of Create Gallery which is a rotating gallery featuring local artists. Their concept includes a draft cocktail bar with eight tap lines for batched cocktails. They will be operating with a high temp industrial glass washer and he is asking for a variance for permission to omit a three bay sink from their plans. Mr. DiBiccari informed the board that he has a respectable service provider called Accu-chem which is a highly reputable provider of dish & glass washing machines. If the dishwasher needs service, calls are made and they will come out to do service and he never has gone through a service period without a working machine. In the event if the machine for whatever reason cannot be fixed and required removal & replacement, their emergency plan of action would be to service all beverages in disposable cups and they would only use what we have on tap. Mr. Lipham recommended that they log Temp of the washing machine twice daily during hours of operation.

Dr. Green made a motion to grant a variance (non transferable) to Create Gallery and will be revoke if the business plan is not followed accordingly and that a daily log verifying the dishwasher temp be kept with date, time, chemical and temperature readings that is available to Board of Health staff, and when machine is not working properly that disposables can be used. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio. All in Favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ventless Hoods: Both Ben and Elise from ISD/Health Division would like to propose a ventless hood policy proposal. Ben gave a brief overview why the city needs this. He has done some research and showed the board what the City of Seattle in Washington has done. The Building Dept said they will contact ISD/Health when someone applies for a kitchen then ISD will send an email saying they will need to apply for a food permit. Mr. Kress said he would help Mr. Lipham work on some proposals to create a ventless hood policy and hope to bring back these proposals to the board members at the May meeting.

CBD Oil Discussion: Matthew Mitchell handed out some documents on the topic of cbd oils in products. You can find these oils in products such as bong, oils, vapes, drinks, food. New York City decided to crack down on cbd and said it is not safe saying that the fda has not really had any oversight, not testing it, and cbd is currently not being regulated. Until further notice, it is banned in New York City. The city of Brookline has sent out advisory notices to retailers regarding cbd in products. Cbd is a component of the marijuana plant and then extract it from the plant. As it stands now, cbd is not regulated and if you use it, you really don't know the effects of it. Not testing has been done or is required at this time. Mr. Mitchell did pass out a literature from fda on regulation of cannabis and cannabis-derived products questions and answers. The city could if they want ban all cbd's like what NYC is doing. In other states, Walgreens, CVS, will be selling topical creams, etc in some products. Dr. Green concern is youth access, he feels that stores like Walgreens, CVS will get into the hands of young people. There is no regulations about selling cbd. Mr. Ciccio wants consumers to be protected and keep them safe, right now we don't know what we are ingesting or putting on our bodies with products made with cbd's. More discussions on this topic will follow at future meetings.

Tobacco Regulation Updates: Court date was postponed until Monday, April 29, 2019.

Director Updates: Funds from the Marijuana Stabilization account has been approved to spend. We will be hiring a Substance Abuse Coordinator. Educations and training will continue on drugs, marijuana, tobacco. What is public and not public to smoke marijuana, people have been inquiring – if someone is smoking on their porch, is that public or private, smoking on your porch is private. Social consumption issues have arisen too and the city has initiated a Social consumption task force. The city will need to deal with the issue of the order from marijuana smoke, and how to implement where marijuana can be smoked at businesses for example lounges, bars, etc. Discussion amongst the board members on how the board will look into on how to regulate outside social consumption for individuals who chose to smoke marijuana. The city has received fourteen (14) marijuana applications, but the city councilor put a cap of 12. Ten (10) were empowerment. Doug asked the board if they were interested in a tour of Liberty.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 23, 2019; location to be determined

Adjournment: On a motion made by Ms. Machado, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio.

List of Documents: Sign-In Sheet, Agenda, March 21, 2019 Minutes, CBD's Literature (2), BOH Action Sheet (Variance Request – Create Gallery), Email from Louis DiBiccari

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)
May 2, 2019