



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
*HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT*

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

*DOUGLAS KRESS*  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Regular Meeting  
May 17, 2018  
5:00pm

42 Cross Street, Somerville, MA 02145

**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:** Ade Solarin from ISD/Health

**Guests:** Owners/Representatives from Burger Dive and India Palace

**Meeting Called to Order:** On a motion made by Ms. Machado, the meeting was called to order at 5:06pm. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio.

**Previous Minutes:** On a motion made by Ms. Machado, the April 12, 2018 minutes were approved. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio.

**Burger Dive Hearing:** came in front of the board due to a complaint received about oil/grease found in Mystic River. It is believed to be as a result of Burger Dive dumping oil/grease in the catch basin. Burger Dive has denied these allegations. The new procedure is; the oil/grease is put into a new machine/contraption device where the oil/grease is then transported to the loading dock where it gets disposed to into another machine by a hose and then the truck takes the oil/grease away to be disposed properly. The new procedure is leak proof. The recommendation proposed is the staff will monitor the new system and insure staff is following procedures as outlined and Burger Dive will report back in six (6) months to the Board of Health. Mr. Dalbeck suggested that Mr. Lipham come to the restaurant so he can be shown the new procedure for the disposal of their oil/grease. Mr. Ciccio made a motion to approve the recommendations set forth to Burger Dive and Ms. Machado seconded it. All in Favor. .

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**India Palace Hearing:** Mr. Solarin presented the board with a packet of India Palace inspections, re-inspections reports prior board of health actions sheets board orders for review. Since 2015, India Palace has and continues to not be in compliance with the food safety code and was in violations of the recommended board orders. India Palace put up a new sign showing a change of name to Godavari. No name change has been applied for. They told the inspector that India Palace owns 50% and new management owns 50%. At this point, the ownership of this business is confusing. Appropriate documentation/applications for Common Victualler and Alcohol licenses needs to be file with the clerk's office.

Dr. Green made a motion that India Palace will voluntary close effective Thursday, May 17, 2018. Inspections will start within two (2) weeks, then within two (2) months, at opening and then revert back to regular six (6) month inspections. During the closure, they will need to re-apply as a whole new business and will be treated as a new establishment. The following will need to be done; a plan review will be required, a pre-operational inspection will be required. Mr. Solarin said that a conditional permit would be provided so they can open (without liquor) until the July meeting where licenses are voted on. If they are voted to get a liquor license then the conditional permit will be lifted. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio. All in Favor. .

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**FDA Retail Food Code Updates:** Mr. Solarin passed out a pamphlet explaining the changes the FDA is looking into adopting. Some of the changes are: (a) The number of provisions to be violated has almost doubled, (b) Definitions will change critical and non-critical will now have three (3) sections called Priority, Priority Foundation and Core (c) Potentially Hazardous Foods (PHF's) will now be called Time/Temperature Control for Safety (TCS). (d) Fresh leafy greens which are cut, sliced or chopped are not currently defined in the current regulations. The new proposal will now include fresh leafy greens and they will be called TCS Foods which require specific cooling and holding temperatures. (d) Establishments must post a conspicuous sign which tells customers that a copy of last inspection report is available upon requests.(e) Irreversible test strips for high temperature machines are now standard operating procedures (sop's for vomiting and diarrhea cleanup are new requirements. (f) Soap and sanitizer buckets are not allowed to be placed on the floor and water temperature for handwashing has been lowered to 100 degrees from 110. Some of the challenges that ISD will face when the food code 2013 is passed will be longer inspections, report templated will need to be modified, and additional staff training. One discussion was to alleviate the changes is ISD is requesting that the city look into hiring an additional health inspector. Mr. Kress said that he would reach out to Skyla Stewart to have the city strongly approved an additional staff member for ISD/Health division.

**Cannabis Control Updates:** Revolutionary has been illegally advertising in the Scout Magazine; while Sage we have not seen any advertisements. Dr. Green made a suggestion that a phone call to the Scout Magazine should be placed to tell them that placing an ad for Revolutionary is not acceptable. Mr. Kress said he would make a call to the magazine. They also cannot have signage in their windows. We have received a check from Sage and it was deposited into the Marijuana Stabilization Fund. We are expecting a check from Revolutionary. Checks should be sent to us every 6 months. As of tonight's meeting there really have been no updates from the cannabis control commission.

**HHS Updates:** The tobacco control grant has been granted and this will keep Ms. Carroll on the payroll and we were award the SAPC grant which is the substance abuse prevention coalition grant. Narcan has been purchased and will be distributed throughout the city. The librarians have asked to have training in narcan usage. Doing outreach to the homeless populations as well. There were 425 dumpster inspections 31 failed and we are looking into rodent activity around dumpsters. 81 food services, 24 food retailers, 9 schools, and 6 caterings. The HHS FY19 budget has been submitted. Requested an out of school coordinator for the Somerpromise division and an environmental health staff for policy on rodent control. The HHS department will also be taking on a doctoral student from Harvard. They will be more focus on social service aspect of the education component in the community. Harvard is going to pay for most of it. The doctoral student will be here for 10 months. We will be renewing our contract with Teen Empowerment. The mayor will present the budget on June 6, 2018. The HHS will present their budget to the Board of Aldermen on Monday, June 25, 2018.

**Next Meeting:** June 21, 2018, 2018 – 42 Cross Street – at 5:30pm

**Adjournment:** On a motion made by Ms. Machado, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm. It was seconded by Dr. Green.

**List of Documents:** Agenda, April 12, 2018 Minutes, Burger Dive and India Palace Board of Health Action sheets with supporting documents provided by Mr. Solarin. Sign In Sheet

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Teixeira (Recording Secretary)  
June 11, 2018