

MEETING NOTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PEABODY BOARD OF HEALTH

November 16, 2023 4:30 pm

In Attendance: Chairperson Thomas J. Durkin III; Member Anthony Carli; Member Julia Fleet, D.O. (via Zoom Health); Department Director Sharon Cameron.

The meeting was held in the City Hall Lower- Level Conference Room at 4:30 p.m. with public access also available remotely Via Zoom

At 4:30 Mr. Durkin opened the General Meeting, read the hearing notice and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

HEARINGS

Subject: (Scheduled for 4:30 pm)- Application for Permits to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Janine Antonellis (apprentice micropigmentation only).

Discussion: Mr. Durkin opened the hearing and read the hearing notice at 4:31 pm. Ms. Antonellis was present via Zoom and Mr. Durkin asked her to tell what it is that interests her in obtaining this permit. Ms. Antonellis replied that she is actually a full time musician but has been interested in art for her entire life and was looking to get into something that gives back to the community and this seems to be a good fit. Mr. Durkin notes that she will be working at Prettyology and Ms. Antonellis replied that is correct. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members have any questions at this time. None were put forth. He asked Ms. Cameron if she would like to ask any questions. Ms. Cameron said she would and clarified that Ms. Antonellis will be apprenticing, and asked Ms. Antonellis to tell about the procedures she would be using to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Antonellis replied that she wears PPE, gloves, uses disinfectant, post procedure discards of sharps in a sharps container, and makes sure things are disposed of properly and non-disposable items are disinfected for the next client. Ms. Cameron asked about handwashing, and Ms. Antonellis replied that she washes before starting set up, before putting on gloves, after taking off gloves, and after cleaning. Ms. Cameron asked what materials are reused and what are disposable. Ms. Antonellis said everything she uses except the machine - that is wrapped and sanitized in between procedures - everything else is disposable. Ms. Cameron asked what Ms. Antonellis will be doing as an apprentice. She replied that she will be working only under supervision, but the two procedures she will be doing will be eyebrow pigmentation and lip pigmentation. Ms. Cameron asked if she will be working on clients right away or on other materials. Ms. Antonellis said during classes she worked on latex skin but once she becomes an apprentice she will be working on clients. Ms. Cameron asked about any skin conditions that would cause her to not tattoo a client. She replied that if anything looks out of the ordinary, anything that looks unhealthy, any open sore, or possible skin cancer, and at that point they would be directed to their physician for clearance. Mr. Durkin stated that this is a public hearing and if anyone present or via zoom would like to speak on this matter they can now and said to use the raise hand feature if on zoom. No responses were received.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to approve Janine Antonellis to perform body tattooing-micropigmentation as an apprentice only. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously decided to grant the permit.

Subject: (Scheduled for 4:30 pm)- Application for Permits to Perform Body Tattooing (micropigmentation only); and Application to Operate Body Tattooing Establishment and Body Art Training Academy at 39 Cross St., both submitted by Adriana Souza Santos.

Discussion: Mr. Durkin opened the hearing and read the hearing notice at 4:45pm. Ms. Souza Santos was present via Zoom and had a translator, Sarah DiCastro, present to help her to be understood as English is not her first language. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Santos why she is applying. She replied (through her translator) that she

applied because she has years of experience and wants to expand her career, and already teaches and wants to teach in Peabody. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members had any questions. None were put forth. Ms. Cameron clarified that there are three different types of issues before them, one to permit Adrianna as a tattoo artist, one for the establishment, and one to provide classroom training, and she said she will first talk about the tattoo artist and operator and the training will be addressed separately. She asked Ms. Santos to describe the measures she takes to prevent cross contamination. Santos replied that first she uses only disposable equipment, uses a specific disposal bag to throw away all of the contaminated materials and uses sanitizer to clean non-disposable equipment. She cleans the beds with a disinfectant. For equipment that is not disposable, she uses madacide on them. She does not have anything that needs to be autoclaved, she uses protective covering on the bed, plastic on the non-disposable equipment, paper towels. She uses antiseptic cleaner like Clorox on the sinks. Ms. Cameron asked about using the ink, how to prevent it from being contaminated. Ms. Santos replied that she does not put the ink on the set up table. The ink goes on a ring before the procedure. Ms. Cameron asked what sort of conditions would cause you not to work on a client. Ms. Santos replied, diabetes, eczema, pregnancy, people who take aspirin, have lupus or any other autoimmune disease. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever had any discipline in any other location where she performed body art. She replied that she had not. Ms. Cameron said that she confirmed that Santos is in good standing in the town of Wilmington, and also confirmed with the prior location in California and there were no complaints. Santos wanted to add that she has worked with micropigmentation for more than 17 years and had no complaints. Mr. Durkin said that they would vote on the license to perform body tattooing-micropigmentation and on the establishment first. She asked if Ms. Santos had any other questions. She replied no. He asked if any board members had any questions. None were put forth. He asked if anyone present or on zoom had any questions. Evelyn said that she knows Ms. Santos, has been working for almost 18 years and will be working with her and said that she has been changing lives through her work. She added that she is willing to translate for her if she needs her as well. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone else had any comments on this matter. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin closed the public hearing at 4:56.

Mr. Carli asked if the location has been inspected and approved. Ms. Cameron said yes inspector Yale has inspected and approved the location.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to approve the permits- to perform body tattooing- micropigmentation only, and to operate a tattoo establishment, submitted by Adriana Souza Santos. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously approved.

Subject: (scheduled for 4:35 p.m.) Application to Operate Body Art Training Academy at 39 Cross St. submitted by Adriana Souza Santos. Votes anticipated to grant or deny permit.

Discussion: Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:57. Ms. Santos was present via Zoom with her translator Sarah. Ms. Cameron said that she had an opportunity to review the training materials Ms. Santos had submitted for the training academy. She asked Ms. Santos to tell a little about the training Ms. Santos had received to train other people. After some time Ms. Santos's translator, Sarah, said she had been having some difficulty with translating some of what Ms. Santos was trying to explain, and she asked if perhaps her coworker, Evelyn, who was on zoom, might be allowed to take over the translation. Mr. Durkin said that was fine. Evelyn explained that Ms. Santos has taken many courses over the years as a teacher and as an artist, said that she is certified by the American Academy of Micropigmentation as a trainer. Ms. Cameron asked her to tell how she developed the curriculum for her training academy. Ms. Santos replied that she created the curriculum based on the guidelines of the American Academy of Micropigmentation. Ms. Cameron offered her comments on the curriculum submitted. She said that there was a lot of information about the artistry of providing this service, and she understands that this is important, but they are the Board of Health and their job is to focus on the health and safety aspects, and there is really not a lot in this curriculum about the things that they are concerned about, like what sort of tools do you need to set up a work station, how do you clean and sanitize equipment, how to do all of the things that she described earlier about how to prevent cross contamination. She said those are the sort of things that they are really interested in, and she thinks that this curriculum is not really addressing those types of issues and that is the concern she has. Ms. Santos replied that

it is fine, she can add in that stuff, it is something done on a daily basis and is taught. Ms. Cameron said that is great, we would want to see all those procedures in writing, would like to see checklists for people so that they could really use your curriculum as a guide on how to start their own business. She said that there is more work to be done before she would be comfortable recommending approval of the training facility, but said she is comfortable approving her as an artist but would need to see these procedures in place before approving the training academy piece. Ms. Santos asked if she could send in the extra pages to the curriculum. Ms. Cameron said they will need to see the entire revised curriculum before approving it. Ms. Santos said OK. Mr. Durkin said they will be watching for the addendum to the curriculum. He asked if the board would like to revisit this next month. Ms. Santos expressed displeasure that she would have to wait until next month. Mr. Carli said that he feels strongly that they receive a revised curriculum. Evelyn asked if it would really have to be delayed a month. Mr. Durkin explained that tonight they have already approved the permit to perform micropigmentation, and approved the establishment, so she is allowed to do the work, the only thing she will not be allowed to do is the training facility. He added that once you rewrite your curriculum to include all of the health and safety issues that we want to see that you are teaching, submit it to Ms. Cameron, she will take some time to review it, and when the Board reconvenes next month we will take it up again. Ms. Cameron explained that the next meeting of the Board of Health is on December 14th, but in order to have enough time to review the materials, she would need to receive the updated materials no later than December 1st. Ms. Santos said that was ok. Ms. Cameron also clarified that as a licensed artist, Santos can start working with permitted apprentices on a 1:1 basis; it is just the classroom training academy that is not approved yet.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to recess and revisit this application until the December meeting. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to recess this until next month.

Subject: (Scheduled for 4:30 pm)- Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Yolany Sanchez (micropigmentation only).

Discussion: Mr. Durkin opened the hearing and read the hearing notice at 5:12 pm. Ms. Sanchez was present via zoom. She said she would like to start teaching with Adrianna Santos and has taken several courses to prepare. She said she is eager to teach in three different languages. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members had any questions for Ms. Sanchez. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Cameron if she had any questions. Ms. Cameron said she did and proceeded to ask about procedures to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Sanchez replied that she always works in a sterile field and said that means they always disinfect surfaces and wrap their carts and beds and put on protective wear. She said she washes hands before putting on sterile gloves and makes sure not to touch anything outside of the sterile field. During procedures once touching a client if they need to touch anything outside of the sterile field she will remove gloves and practice hand hygiene again and re-glove to go back to the client. After a procedure they talk about post care then dispose sharps into sharps container, everything else is disposable and goes into trash, then disinfect cart and machine with ketacid. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever had any client return with an infection or other problem. Ms. Sanchez replied that she has not. Ms. Cameron asked if Ms. Sanchez had ever had any disciplinary action taken against her in any of the places she has been permitted. Ms. Sanchez replied that she has not. Ms. Cameron asked if she has been accredited by the American Academy of Micropigmentation as a trainer. Ms. Sanchez replied that she has that goal, but she is not a trainer, she translates and performs body art for Santos. Ms. Cameron stated that the file is in good order and that she had checked with the Wilmington Board of Health and Sanchez is in good standing with them as well. Ms. Cameron asked to clarify, and said it applies to Adrianna as well. She said that the restrictions are such that they can take on licensed apprentices one at a time but cannot do the classroom instruction. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members had any questions. None were put forth. He asked if anyone in the room or via Zoom wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received. He asked if Ms. Sanchez had anything else to say before he closed the hearing. She said no, just that she will just wait with Adrianna and work with the Board of Health to get the permit to teach and said she has a degree in

engineering, also a degree in health science, and is currently a nursing student so she will teach the other artists how to maintain sterile field. Mr. Durkin replied that that is very important and he closed the hearing.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to approve the permit to Perform Body Tattooing- micropigmentation only, for Yolany Sanchez to work at 39 Cross Street. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

Subject: (Scheduled for 4:30 pm)- Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Felicia Cipollone.

Discussion: Mr. Durkin opened the hearing and read the hearing notice at 5:19 pm. Ms. Cipollone was present. Ms. Cipollone said that she is currently working as a tattoo artist in Saugus but now just wants to transfer to work in Peabody. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members have any questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Cameron if she had any questions. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Cipollone to talk about procedures she uses to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Cipollone explained that she wears personal protection equipment, she washes hands, she wraps everything that is not disposable, the tray, the wash bottles, the bed, and after a procedure is done uses ketacid, washes hands again, washes hands about ten times per client, a whole lot of disinfecting. Ms. Cameron asked how she manages her inks. Ms. Cipollone replied that she keeps inks in a storage room, she will bring in her tray, pour ink from the bottle into an ink cap and then put the bottle right back in the storage room. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever had anyone return with an infection. Ms. Cipollone replied no but added that her shop had one lady go horseback riding the day after having her eyebrows done (this is like an open wound) and she had a problem, but that was not her client. Ms. Cameron asked what she would do if someone came to her in that situation. Ms. Cipollone replied that she would direct them to either their primary care physician or the emergency room. Ms. Cameron asked what conditions would cause her to decline to tattoo a client. Ms. Cipollone replied anything autoimmune, eczema, sunburn, and if they take blood thinners, anything that looks sketchy in their medical history she would require a doctor's permission before proceeding. Ms. Cameron asked if she has ever had any disciplinary procedures in any place where she had been permitted in the past; Cipollone said no. Ms. Durkin asked how she knows if a client is on blood thinners. Ms. Cipollone said she requires a health questionnaire to be completed and keeps it on file and updates it and reviews before each appointment. She said for instance if a client is on heart medicine they are not supposed to use any numbing agents to the face for instance like when they do permanent makeup like she does in Saugus. Ms. Cameron asked if she plans to do permanent makeup here in Peabody. Ms. Cipollone replied no. Mr. Carli asked how long she has been working as a tattoo artist. Ms. Cipollone replied five years. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members had any other questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on Zoom wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin closed the public hearing at 5:20.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to approve Ms. Cipollone's application for a permit to Perform Body Tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

Ms. Cameron asked before the next hearing to introduce the new Health Inspector, Ramphis Medina. The Board welcomed Mr. Medina. Ms. Cameron said he is on week two and is already doing a great job.

Subject: (Scheduled for 4:45 pm)- Hearing re: Notice of Inspection and Order to Correct issued to Peterbuilt LLC re: 148 Washington St. Unit B. Vote anticipated to uphold, modify, suspend or revoke the Order and/or any associated penalties. Vote anticipated regarding request for variance from 105 CMR 410.220 and 105 CMR 410.430.

Discussion: Mr. Durkin opened the hearing and read the hearing notice at 5:26 pm. He said that Manager of Peterbuilt, Peter Castrichini, was asked to attend to discuss these issues. John Keilty, attorney of 40 Lowell Street Peabody, was present representing Peterbuilt LLC and Peter Castrichini who was also present. Keilty stated that Mr. Castrichini was in receipt of a notice of violations and an order to correct. He said there were

thirteen items listed, and Peter has endeavored to correct all of the easiest ones, switch lights and handles, and have complied with all of those items he believes, so that leaves the item, the use of an apartment that has been characterized as temporary space. He said that he was told there is a need to get the Board of Health's approval as a temporary habitable space. Ms. Cameron replied that she does not recall any designation of any temporary living space. Mr. Kielty went on to say that they have a letter dated October 13th which outlines activities for Peter to undertake in Unit B, a unit that has no natural light from the exterior to the bedroom. He said they did not have enough time to engage the services of an architect, but Peter has provided a floorplan which demonstrates some dimensions of the space. He was of the opinion that he had a certificate of occupancy dating back to September 20th of 2000 identifying this was eight apartment units there legally. When Peter bought it they were in the midst of Covid and the bank attorneys asked for a certificate of occupancy but he is not aware if they were issued one. He is of the opinion that since he has occupancy permits he doesn't need a variance, but if one is needed he would like to request one and suggests that the floor plan shows that access to this apartment is right from Washington Street. You enter into a street level living room, you pass through a kitchen and into a bedroom, which has a window that is 4x5 feet, and the code says they need access to natural light that is a minimum of 8% in ratio to the square footage of the bedroom, and this window is well over 8%. That is a window to an egress hallway which has three windows in it to the outside, so they respectfully request a variance to allow this to be considered a livable space. He said they are in compliance with each of the other directives and are happy to answer any questions. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members had any questions at this point. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Cameron to help orient them, saying this is a brick three story, and Mr. Kielty said yes, on the corner of Hancock St. Mr. Kielty said to the left is a different building with a Chinese restaurant, two stories. Mr. Durkin asked about the occupancy permits for the units. Mr. Kielty had obtained the file for the property and in it there was a letter from former inspector Ralph Gandolfo saying that the property is a legal eight unit apartment building. Subsequently there were building permits pulled and this issue was never brought up. He said there were some questions about gas tags and they now have pictures of those being approved. Ms. Cameron said that she would like to clarify a few things. She asked what the square footage is of the bedroom. Mr. Castrichini replied that it is a 16 x 10 room so 160 sq feet. Ms. Cameron said that from the original order on October 11th, most of the items had been corrected, just not the light switch, has that been corrected? Mr. Castrichini replied that it has and an electrical permit was pulled and the work was completed. Attorney Kielty said he is happy to provide an inspection opportunity. Ms. Cameron said the other issue for the bedroom is the requirement that there be either natural or mechanical ventilation, not just a fan but mechanical ventilation that exhausts the air to the outside. Mr. Castrichini said yes, it vents to the back yard. Ms. Cameron asked if he has any documentation of that. Mr. Castrichini said that he has photos of the fan and vent. Ms. Cameron said if they provide documentation of mechanical ventilation to the unit, then we are left with only the issue of natural light. Mr. Durkin asked what the spirit is behind the regulation regarding natural light, and whether it related to sunlight for Vitamin D. Mr. Carli said he wondered about 3/14/2000 alteration. Mr. Castrichini replied that ceiling tiles were replaced. Ms. Cameron added that the additional concern about having outside windows is due to a need for a secondary means of egress. She said that the building inspector is satisfied with the building egress and is not taking any additional action on this. She said she has been in the building and said there is natural light in the hallway through the hallway windows, which then filters into the bedroom. She added that it is a large window. Mr. Durkin summarized that the apartment doesn't seem to be in compliance with the regulation regarding natural light, but the building inspector and the Health inspectors are satisfied that the alternatives in place are suitable. He asked what other board members thought. Mr. Carli had been concerned that the unit was not a legal unit, but is satisfied that it is based on the letter from 2000. Attorney Kielty said the unit had formerly been a laundromat. Mr. Durkin asked if there was anyone in the room or on zoom that wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received.

Mr. Carli made a **motion** to issue a variance from 105 CMR 410.220 and 105 CMR 410.430. Dr. Fleet seconded the **motion**. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the variance conditional on

proof of mechanical ventilation for the unit. Discussion ensued about the need to put the record of this decision in the building department file for this apartment.

BUSINESS

1. Subject: Approval of minutes of October 19, 2023- Vote anticipated to approve or amend minutes.

Discussion: Mr. Durkin asked to hold off on the approval of the minutes until next month. The other Board members agreed.

2.a Subject: Environmental updates-Rousselot

Discussion: Ms. Cameron said that Rousselot has been submitting records to us of their SESD discharge every month as a part of their DEP settlement. Now that they are no longer initiating new gel processing their waste stream is very different from what it was. They have begun to shut down their manufacturing but will not shut down their wastewater until everything has run through the cycle which takes months. She said she continues to ask DEP for a meeting but they continue to say no and that they are not ready. She added that Rep. Walsh has secured an earmark to help the city funding to hire outside expertise on what the city should be asking for before Rousselot can walk away from the property. The members agreed that this was a good thing. Ms. Cameron said there were a few odor complaints received this month. She said they are still dealing with such complaints in the same way, documenting them and directing people to contact Rousselot with complaints, and if a violation is egregious we continue to fine them.

2.b Subject: Environmental updates-Rodent control

Discussion: Ms. Cameron reported that they had implemented the new program with A1 exterminators. They are called sentinel traps and it brings down a piston on a rodent's head. She said they are off to a good start, but said we have about half the number of these type of traps as last year, but also have the fertility control stations. This year for bait stations they have asked them to move away from second generation rodenticide to the first generation rodenticides to prevent secondary animal impact. She said that they were out in the field with Peabody TV making an educational program about issues that lead to rodent issues, trash management etc. She said they are hoping to see that out in December. Mr. Durkin asked about the location where 25 rodents were killed, and she said that one is an estimate. The trap can hold about 7 bodies, but once those decay, other rodents may go in to scavenge so it was difficult to determine exactly how many were killed in that trap.

3. Subject: Environmental updates-Code enforcement updates-a) Housing: 16 Crowninshield St; 50 Warren St; 20 Central St

Discussion: Ms. Cameron reported that there was a bed bug issue at the Crowninshield properties, and said it was difficult because it can take well over a year to get this under control since in many cases people are bringing in secondhand/cast off items. She said a lot of the people are elderly and can't effectively prepare for extermination, refuse to leave their home to get a treatment, etc. She said the property manager seems to be working diligently on it, and are bringing in some outside cleaners to help people clean out apartments. She added that the other issue is Fairweather- their elevator is going offline for an extended period. She said that Fairweather management sent two letters out to explain how to access assistance with rides, package moving, etc. and they looped the fire department in right away. Mr. Carli said in extreme cases at his department they had put a detail there in the event that the anyone needed help. Management will be adding a chair lift in for the planned repair this spring. Mr. Durkin asked if he read correctly that there are bedbug sniffing dogs. Ms. Cameron said yes they have been around for some time and said they don't rely solely on the dogs but do a visual inspection as well.

4. Subject: Environmental updates-Code enforcement updates-b) Nuisances: 10 Holten St; 12 Holten St; 24 Joy Rd; 229 Andover St; 13 Sewall St; 5 Harris St; 41 Columbia Blvd; 672 Lowell St.

Discussion: Reviewed.

5. Subject: Environmental updates-Code enforcement updates-c)Food: 136 Newbury St; Island Breeze Soups

Discussion: Ms. Cameron said owner of Island Breeze Soups did not contact them after he received the Cease & Desist order, and has not been advertising on Facebook. She said the operator of the commercial kitchen he had been working under was not willing to continue to work with him and has terminated his lease.

6. Subject: Environmental updates-Code enforcement updates-d) Septic: 176 Newbury St.

Discussion: Ms. Cameron said they received an update, unit 21 found alternate housing, and in unit 7 the tenant has just gotten a housing voucher and expects to be moved out soon so they are making good progress.

7.a) Subject: Permitting updates- List of permits issued in October 2023

Discussion: Reviewed.

7.b)Subject: Permitting updates- Geothermal heating system

Discussion: Ms. Cameron said they had one of these systems in the past and they don't really have any formal role in approving them but asked if the Board had any concern with glycol that goes into the ground. Mr. Carli said it was gaining popularity, they drill in the ground. Ms. Cameron said there are setback requirements from private drinking wells because of the glycol. Mr. Carli said the geothermal pipe goes 280 feet into the ground.

8.a) Subject: Public Health Nursing updates- October 2023 surveillance report

Discussion: Reviewed. Ms. Cameron said she didn't have the updated covid numbers to include in the packet but has it now and will e-mail to Dr. Fleet. She reported that the Swampscott Board of Health and Board of Selectmen have voted to go back into online meetings because of a rise in Covid cases. She said that she is not seeing this here from the data she has reviewed, and said she checked with our regional epidemiologist to see if she had seen any trends of concern, and she had not either. She asked Dr. Fleet if she had seen a rise in cases or anything of concern to her. Dr. Fleet replied that she had not. Ms. Cameron said she is not recommending they go to online meetings at this time and the Board agreed.

8.b) Subject: Public Health Nursing updates- Vaccination updates

Discussion: Chassea has done close to 30 flu clinics, has gone out to all senior housing developments. She has scheduled one Covid vaccination clinic in Peabody and our residents can also attend any of the regional clinics. She said they are not expecting to hold any more clinics because people can access the vaccines from pharmacies.

9. Subject: School Health updates- October 2023 district report

Discussion: Ms. Cameron said the school health clinics are busy, and most of the hearing and vision screenings have already been done which is great this early in the school year. She said having the extra float nurse and the extra administrative assistant has really helped with that. She said it benefits students because if they identify a hearing or vision issue earlier they can address it earlier. She said SBIRT screenings are happening at the middle school, and things are going well in the schools. Mr. Durkin asked if the additional students that have come in and are living in the hotels has created a burden on the school nurses. Ms. Cameron said she wouldn't say burden but said that a few of the students have some pretty acute medical needs. Most of the kids living in the hotels are going to the McCarthy school so that is where the big impact is. It is being managed well and Brenda is providing a lot of support. The state education commissioner Jeffrey Riley came to Peabody last week and the School Superintendent invited Brenda and Ms. Cameron to come along, and Riley was very complimentary about how Peabody was handling the situation. He also gifted them with a new tool called a "Pocket Talk" which is similar to using Google Translate but is a much more powerful tool- people can speak into it, can type into it, can take pictures and get translation. She said she is now going to buy them for all of

the school clinics to use. Mr. Durkin asked Dr. Fleet if she sees patients who speak other languages. She said she does but they use a telephone translation service. Ms. Cameron said that they also use a phone-in translation service but it can have delays while they locate someone to work with you but with this device it can be instant.

Social Service Updates

Discussion: Ms. Cameron reported that the first meeting of the Social Service Commission was held and explained that the group is headed by the Mayor and includes Sara Grinnell and herself, the police chief, the fire chief, the superintendent, a youth representative, a person with lived experience (a grandmother in Peabody who lost one daughter to an overdose and another is in rehab and she is raising both of their children) who provides information on the issues she has faced trying to get help for her children. The Commission also includes the Council on Aging, the library director, a City Councilor, and a physician from Lahey. They had a great meeting yesterday afternoon and got great feedback on the sober living scholarship program that they will be implementing, got feedback on their evaluation plan and their work plan. Their two positions were posted this week. They have already gotten a few resumes, hope to have staff in place and offer services by February 1st. She also talked about harm reduction programs, such as the mobile van that we toured, and said we are looking for public input on whether Peabody should authorize a syringe service program. She wondered if the Board is ready to schedule a public hearing on the matter. A public hearing is not required but the Board would like to give the community an opportunity to be heard. There was interest at the Social Services Commission meeting yesterday and Cameron invited members to give testimony on it. Mr. Carli said after they toured the van his thought was to get input from elected officials as well as the general public. She said a city councilor is also on the Social Services Commission and he had some questions on the process, such as is it a one-for-one needle exchange? He wondered if dealers would be drawn to the vehicle to take advantage of vulnerable people; Cameron stated she has asked this question of the service providers and that has not been their experience. She said she has discussed the issue with the Mayor and he said he would defer to the expertise of the Board of Health. Mr. Durkin asked why a public hearing was required. Ms. Cameron replied that it isn't required and said the Board is just required to take a vote that we want this service and then we would write a letter to the state requesting it, and they would procure a vendor and it is likely that the vendor would be Healthy Streets, as they were already providing the services in Salem and Lynn. She said that due to the sensitivity of the issue, however, it would be prudent to hold a public hearing and hear what questions and concerns the residents have. Mr. Durkin proposed holding the hearing in December. He said he would agree to hold the public hearing in December and possibly vote on it at that time or they can decide that they want to defer until the next month. All agreed. Mr. Carli said he doesn't want a vote to be held up any longer when the program can be out there helping people. Ms. Cameron said she also had wondered if it was not a good idea to do this in December with people being busy with the holidays but thought moving to after the holidays would mean delaying potential life-saving services so she thinks it would be appropriate to move forward with holding the hearing next month as well. Mr. Durkin asked her to invite the members of the social services commission as well. She agreed. She said she would try to minimize the other business on the agenda. Board unanimously agreed to proceed to a public hearing in December.

6. Proposed 2024 meeting dates: Jan 25; Feb 22; Mar 28; Apr 25; May 23; Jun 27; Jul 25; Aug 15; Sep 26; Oct 24; Nov 21; Dec 19

Discussion: Mr. Durkin asked if anyone has any issues with any of these dates. None were expressed.

7. Subject: Correspondence: From MA DEP re: Peabody Ash Monofill

Discussion: Reviewed.

Next meeting date: December 14th, 2023

Adjournment: 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Greene, Clerk to BOH

Approved 12-14-23