

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

June 29, 2023 4:30 pm

In Attendance: Chairperson Thomas J. Durkin III; Members Julia Fleet, D.O. (via Zoom) and Anthony Carli; Health Department Director Sharon Cameron; and Recording Secretary Lisa Greene,  
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 said tonight we will begin with some hearings.

### HEARINGS

**Subject:** -Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Natalya Kushpel (Apprentice micropigmentation only)

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:30. He asked if Ms. Kushpel was present. Ms. Kushpel was not present and Ms. Cameron explained that Ms. Kushpel had contacted her and asked to have her hearing rescheduled to next month.

**Subject:** Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by WanjeniMary Advuely Fanini Courvertier (Apprentice only)

**Discussion:** At 4:32 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Ms. Courvertier to tell a little about why she is applying for this permit. Ms. Courvertier explained that she used to be a football player but tore her ACL. She became a secretary at Timeless Ink and now her mentor thinks she is ready to become an apprentice tattoo artist. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Courvertier to tell the board about steps she plans to take to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Courvertier replied that all things used are one time use, she will wash hands before and after any work, will remove gloves to do any other activities and apply new gloves. Ms. Cameron asked what duties she expects to perform as an apprentice. Ms. Courvertier said that she will always be overseen by her mentors and will practice on fake skin until her mentors feel she is ready to work on clients with their oversight. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone had any further questions, either those present or on zoom. No questions were presented. Mr. Durkin closed public hearing

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to grant the permit to Wanjeni Mary Advuely Fanini Courvertier to perform body tattooing only- apprentice only. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Scottie McCulloch (Apprentice Only).

**Discussion:** At 4:36 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Mr. McCulloch to tell a little about why he is applying for this permit. Mr. McCulloch said he grew up in the area and had always been an artist, had done a lot of paintings but found out it is hard to make it as a painter, so he is now giving tattooing a try. Mr. Durkin asked where he would be working. Mr. McCulloch replied that he would be apprenticing at Intricate Ink on First Ave. Ms. Cameron asked Mr. McCulloch to tell the board about his procedures to prevent cross contamination. Mr. McCulloch stated that he would use single use only products, wash hand to the elbows before set up and after finishing a tattoo, he would be careful not to touch anything outside of the prepared products during a tattoo, and would use madacide to clean things down after. Ms. Cameron asked what he expects his duties will be as an apprentice. Mr. McCulloch said he would be using practice skin and his mentor will supervise him until he is ready to work on his own. Ms. Cameron asked how

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long would that period be. Mr. McCulloch replied for two years. Mr. Durkin asked what are hours that he will be working. Mr. McCulloch said that as an apprentice he will have to go in early, at 11:30, to clean the floors and get things ready and then will work until 8 pm. Ms. Cameron reminded Mr. McCulloch that even if his mentor says you are ready in a shorter period you are required to do one full year of apprenticeship. Mr. McCulloch said that he understands. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from board. None were put forth. He asked if anyone on zoom or present wished to comment and reminded those on zoom to use the raise hand feature. No responses were received. Ms. Cameron said that all of the paperwork is in order but reminded Mr. McCulloch that he will have to follow up with second and 3<sup>rd</sup> Hepatitis vaccine. Mr. McCulloch said that he understands that.

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the permit for Scottie McCulloch to work as an apprentice only in body tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Tina Bartolomeo

**Discussion:** At 4:40 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Ms. Bartolomeo to tell a little about why she is applying for this permit. Ms. Bartolomeo was present via Zoom. Ms. Bartolomeo said she had been tattooing for three years and is excited to make the move to Speakeasy Tattoo in Peabody. She explained that she had gotten her experience at Ambition Tattoo in Lynn, had apprenticed at Boston Street in Lynn and then moved to Ambition in Danvers, and currently works in Medford. Ms. Cameron said a note was left from the nurse regarding missing information on lab work. Ms. Bartolomeo replied that she sent over all the information including a declination form. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever had any clients come back with an infection or problem after a tattoo. Ms. Bartolomeo replied no. Ms. Cameron asked how she would handle a situation like that if it occurred. Ms. Bartolomeo replied that she would direct the person to a physician or medical care facility adding that she does not have the medical experience to deal with medical problems. Ms. Cameron asked if it would it cause her to revisit any of her procedures to see if there is anything else she should be doing to prepare her station. Ms. Bartolomeo replied that she would take a look, but said she is very clean and prides herself on being clean and has never had problem. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever been the subject of any disciplinary actions in any jurisdictions where she has been licensed. Ms. Bartolomeo replied that she had not been. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present wished to be heard on this matter. No response was received. Mr. Durkin asked the board if they had any further questions. None were put forth, but Dr. Fleet noted that the Hepatitis B Declination form was included in the packet. At 4:45 Mr. Durkin closed the hearing.

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the permit for Ms. Bartolomeo to perform body tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** -Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Nathan Masi.

**Discussion:** At 4:45 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Mr. Masi to tell a little about why he is applying for this permit. Mr. Masi said he originally went to college and got a typical office job but did art as well. He decided to leave his regular job and got an apprenticeship at 87 Deadly Sins in Lynn and started doing tattooing, until they closed in March. He said that he had been at Intricate Ink as a client and the owner had sent him here to become an apprentice. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone had any questions. Ms. Cameron asked Mr. Masi about what procedures he would use to prevent cross contamination. Mr. Masi replied that he would wash up to his elbows prior to doing any work, use single use products, wrap everything properly, throw out everything and wash hands, and wash down the station with madacide. Ms. Cameron asked about how he will handle inks? Mr. Masi replied that he will keep them in a sterile location, put his gloves on when handling bottles, and keep areas clean. Ms. Cameron asked if he would be putting

needles into bottle. He replied no and said he will pour into ink caps. Ms. Cameron asked what he would do with any excess ink left over. Mr. Masi replied that it would be thrown out. Ms. Cameron asked if there has ever been any disciplinary action taken against him, or if anyone had ever returned to him with any complications? Mr. Masi replied no. Ms. Cameron asked if it did happen, how would he handle it. Mr. Masi replied that he would ask them to come in so that he could look at the area to see if what they are experiencing was normal, for instance from sun damage or some ink coming out, but if there was any increased redness he would send the person to receive medical care, and he would have his mentor Scott take a look at his station to make sure he has no gaps in his set up and breakdown procedures. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone had any questions. None were put forth.

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the permit for Mr. Masi for body tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Courtney Ryan.

**Discussion:** At 4:51 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Ms. Ryan to tell a little about why she is applying for this permit. Ms. Ryan explained that she grew up in Medford, went to college and studied psychology but got into tattooing. She said that after receiving her degree she did an apprenticeship at Visible Ink in Malden, but is now moving to Salem and wants to learn a style she is interested in. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Ryan to tell a little about her procedures to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Ryan replied that before every tattoo she will wash her hands, she will keep a sterile work station, use barriers for bottles, will disinfect client skin with alcohol prior to working on them, will use single use products for everything, will put needles in ink in ink caps, will take off gloves when leaving the station, will wrap up everything that can go into the trash and dispose of it, throw out all needles in the sharps container, and finally clean her area with madacide. Ms. Cameron asked if anyone had ever returned with any complications. Ms. Ryan replied no. Ms. Cameron asked what she would do if that occurred. Ms. Ryan said that she would have the person come in to see if it could be just ink falling out, but if there is anything unusual like a rash or hotness she would send them to seek to medical care. She said she would then look to her station, look at the products used to ensure that there is nothing that could have caused a reaction. Ms. Cameron asked if Ms. Ryan had ever been the subject of any disciplinary actions. Ms. Ryan replied no she had not. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members had any questions? None were put forth. He asked if anyone on the zoom call or in person had any questions. No responses were received. At 4:55 Mr. Durkin closed the hearing.

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the permit for Ms. Ryan for body tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** -Application for Permit to Operate a Body Tattooing Establishment and Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Max Hill for Lake St. Tattoo at 4 Lake St.

**Discussion:** At 4:55 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Mr. Hill to tell a little about why he is applying for these permits. Mr. Hill explained that he has been into graffiti arts since 2006, he has had a couple of apprenticeships, has worked at a lot of places, and was ready to look for a place to start his own business. Ms. Cameron asked Mr. Hill to tell a little about his procedures to prevent cross contamination. Mr. Hill replied that everything must be sterilized, he dons gloves before doing everything including drawing with a sharpie, shaving, and disinfecting skin. He said if he takes his gloves off go to his handwashing station and puts on a new set of gloves, if he needs to step away to get more ink, new gloves go on. Ms. Cameron asked if anyone has ever returned with complaints or complications. Mr. Hill replied no. Ms. Cameron asked what he would do if someone did. Mr. Hill replied that he would have them send him

photos so he can see the issue. He explained that some people are allergic to some pigments, especially reds, yellows, and green, and said he would always want to know if something had happened to one of his clients. He added that he learned his sterilization technique from Kaleidoscope in Cambridge which is well known for having a very thorough procedure. Ms. Cameron asked if he has a policy on guest artists. Mr. Hill replied that he has been informed that any guest artists will need to get a license through the board, but wondered if it was a full license. Ms. Cameron replied yes, there are no temporary permits, so they would need to apply for a standard license. Ms. Cameron asked if Mr. Hill would have any employees. He replied no, there would only be himself, but may have another artist later. Ms. Cameron asked if he intends to have apprentices. Mr. Hill replied that he does not intend to, as he doesn't have time right now for one, but said he would show them everything he was shown, like proper sterilization techniques. He said they would of course also need to be able to draw, need to keep old school values, show a portfolio, then he would get a tattoo by them, and if they proved themselves, he might take someone under his wing. He added that he had an apprentice once, but they only lasted 2 months so he doesn't plan to have any more. Ms. Cameron asked if he had been the recipient of any disciplinary actions. Mr. Hill replied no. Ms. Cameron explained that Inspector Yale has been out to the site but it has not yet been built out, so if the applications are approved, that approval has to be conditional on it passing inspection. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin told Mr. Hill that he has learned from these hearings over the years that there are multiple components to this business, art, business and the health aspect which is the Board's area. He reminded that the Board will expect him to keep a high standard. Mr. Hill replied that he will do that. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any more questions. None were put forth.

Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the permit for Mr. Hill to perform body tattooing. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

Mr. Carli made motion to approve the tattoo business permit for Lake Street Tattoo, pending inspection. Dr. Fleet seconded. A vote was taken, all agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Application for Permit to Operate a Body Tattooing Establishment and Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Marlucia Spellmeyer for Phoenix PMU World at 21 Caller St.

**Discussion:** At 5:05 Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice, opened the hearing and asked Ms. Spellmeyer to tell a little about why she is applying for these permits. Ms. Spellmeyer explained that she is originally from Brazil and now has dual citizenship. She has worked for 24 years here. She said that she fell in love with micropigmentation and microblading. She said she had taken some time off, but her good friend is a body tattooer but is afraid of doing micropigmentation work, so she asked Ms. Spellmeyer to do it there. She said she studied at micropigmentation Academy in Brazil. Her teacher was a Serbian teacher Latos Lavias, who now works in Las Vegas, and is a champion tattoo artist. She said she is going to Paris in September where she will train with him for two days and if she passes will have her masters. Mr. Durkin asked if she is only doing micropigmentation. Ms. Spellmeyer replied yes, and said she does eyebrows, lips, breasts for people after cancer, and said she also wants to help people who cannot pay. She distributed a document and said it explains what value she will be adding to the city of Peabody. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone had any questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if Ms. Spellmeyer will have any employees. She replied no, it will be just her. She reported that she had gone to San Paolo to compete in a PMU competition, with 150 people in the competition, and she came in at number 10. Mr. Durkin asked how one competes in this field. She explained that they use vinyl skin and they will each do their type of work, for instance she did lips, and a board of judges will vote on style, accuracy, and cleanliness. She said that vinyl skin is very delicate, and if you make too many wrong lines it will mess up the skin. She added that her friend does mini tattoos for the scalp. She said some people want her to take out old tattoos and are waiting for her to take certification for laser to remove their badly done eyebrows and other areas, adding that it could take as much as 40 hours to remove one tattoo. She said that lasers are a big segment of the business now because too many bad procedures have

been done. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members have any further questions. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Spellmeyer to describe how she prevents cross contamination. Ms. Spellmeyer said that she will always wash her hands before and after doing work, she uses all disposable tools, even tweezers, throw everything away after one use, uses a film on the pen, take needles out and dispose of them in sharps box and throws away everything else. She explained that when a client comes in she has already washed up, put on gloves, put on a hair cap and puts a cap on the client, and she will clean the face with bactericide like is used in hospitals. She said that in Brazil when someone calls to schedule an appointment, she asks them to come in to the studio the day before and does an allergy test so when the person comes in the next day she knows there will be no problem. She said that after she checks that there is no reaction she will proceed. She added that she will have already had the patient fill out their consent form, intake form, and aftercare information, where she talks about what to use to protect the tattoo. Ms. Cameron asked if she had ever had anyone return with an issue after a procedure. Ms. Spellmeyer replied no, and said the work is very soft, and has a very natural look. She said she shows clients different designs to choose from before hand and the person sits down and chooses from the designs. Ms. Cameron noted that the nurse has left a note that Ms. Spellmeyer still needs the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> doses of the Hepatitis B vaccination. Ms. Spellmeyer replied yes she knows that. Ms. Cameron said that the inspector has been to site, but will still need a final inspection. Ms. Spellmeyer said yes, the inspector said not to set up yet. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members have questions. None were presented. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or via zoom wished to comment and said to use the raise hand feature in zoom. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin closed the public hearing at 5:22.

Mr. Carli made motion to approve the permit for Marluca Spellmeyer to perform body tattooing, and also to approve her establishment permit, conditional upon approval of the Health inspector's final inspection. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant both permits.

#### BUSINESS

**Subject: 1.** Approval of minutes of May 25, 2023- Vote anticipated to approve or amend minutes.

**Discussion:** Mr. Carli made a **Motion** to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as presented.

**Subject: 2.** Presentation by Mary Wheeler re: Syringe Service Program

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron introduced Mary Wheeler and said that Sara Grinnell was also present, and is the director of the Healthy Peabody Collaborative and will soon be to director of the new Division of Social Services and would oversee the syringe service program here should we decide to go forward with the program. Ms. Wheeler gave Ms. Cameron a template document if approval is down the line. She explained that she runs Healthy Streets and has provided harm reduction for 23 years in Massachusetts. She said her organization does syringe exchange and naloxone distribution, and said they are changing the language to say they are a drug user health program. She explained that they don't just serve users who inject. She made a short presentation, and said that the philosophy of harm reduction is rooted in love, respect, and autonomy, and said that we don't have to agree with people's choices, and said their goal is to get people into a program and to reduce issues including death. She said their program is non-coercive, they don't force anyone to do anything but simply offer a myriad of options to best meet the person's needs. She explained that in the State of Massachusetts Governor Baker changed the process of how to get approval for a needle exchange program, and now the only approval you need is through the local board of health, and that is only needed if it is a state funded program. She said that her program is funded through the state so they do need that approval. She said there are different ways to run the programs and said that their fixed site in Lynn serves 40-50 people. She said that in Salem they use a mobile van and go to homes or public spaces. She said the options are a fixed location, a mobile clinic, a BOH clinic site, or a space located inside a health clinic, or in some cases a program can pay people who are users to do needle exchanges. Mr. Carli asked if one model is more successful. Ms. Wheeler replied that it depends on the community, and on people's willingness to go to a public place there,

since people know this is what they do there. In Lynn they do stationary and mobile. She said she feels it is best not to have these inside a city building or medical center where there will be sign ins and lots of questions. She said they try to run this low threshold and anonymous. She said that there are a few misconceptions about needle exchange programs that need to be addressed. She said that these programs have been heavily studied, through exhaustive studies, but some people think it encourages drug use or drug trash, even though it has been proven not to be true. She said that folks access treatment at their centers and we provide rides or bring them where they need to go. She explained that she had brought the supplies that will be given out, and said a big question is usually why are you giving out crack pipes. She explained that the materials are received from the state Department of Public Health, and include the syringes, socks, written materials in English/ Spanish or English /Portuguese, magnets, feminine products, and naloxone. She showed the Board these materials. She also explained that with the rise of xylazine some places have seen an increase in wound issues, people with necrotic tissue, so they will also do a lot of wound care, because folks won't go to a medical facility to seek medical care but they will ask for help at these clinics. She explained that they do give out pipes for smoking drugs, adding that all of the supplies are offered so folks will have their own gear and not share. She said that they offer gloves to those who inject to prevent hepatitis b, and also offer kits for folks who sniff drugs, and said they are trying to encourage folks to move away from injecting, since it is very taxing on the first responders, and it is also for harm reduction. She noted that many people do not welcome them to the table and said thank you for doing this. She explained that in past the way people dealt was with drug users was to send them to prison, and that led to racial inequities. She said she hopes to get people in the door so that they can also test them for diseases. She said they offer a myriad of services, including at the Lynn location they offer drug checking and can test on a machine and also send to a DEA approved lab, and that way they get real time data on the drugs circulating in the community and how it affecting people's bodies. Mr. Carli said so that helps you to know what is trending. Ms. Wheeler said yes, for example xylazine. She said that they have been seeing a higher percentage of xylazine, which is not an opioid so it is not reversed by narcan. She also said that when people buy adderall often it is actually all methamphetamine. She explained that if a person presents in a strange way it may be because they are also taking other things. She said that the turnaround from lab takes a couple of weeks but they can get information immediately from the machine. She said they got into it because Lynn police got involved in a drug testing program with Brandeis University and they gave them their own machine. Ms. Cameron asked who provides wound care etc. Ms. Wheeler replied that they have three syringe service programs in the area, and aside from LCHC it is all their own Healthy Streets staff doing everything. She explained that her wound care training came from Dr. Vawa. Ms. Cameron asked what sort of training did you receive. Ms. Wheeler replied that the training was through the state dept of public health, and they can also do throat swabs, as well as a vaginal and rectal swabs. She said that they provide those services regardless of whether it is at a fixed center or mobile, and added that the beauty of the mobile center is that it can go to sites like hotels or tent encampments for people who don't want to go to a stationary site. Ms. Cameron asked other than approval what role does the community play. Ms. Wheeler replied it depends and said in Salem and Lynn they opened and agreed not put anything in the paper knowing that people who need it will find out. That's why the state changed the approval process, realized it need to be guided by public health, the community needs to know they don't have to call the police if they find syringes, but can call them and they will pick them up. She said they will be connected with medical centers here, so all the little tentacles will be there. She said her preference is to stay off the radar because people have a lot of feelings about these programs. She said her contract is with state not with the city. She said there are also options on who runs the site. They can have a state funded site, folks can apply and split the contract with Healthy Streets, or a BOH can also apply to the state if they want their own site, so it is kind of fluid, so you can figure out what works best for your community. Ms. Cameron asked if there is any reporting to the community. Ms. Wheeler replied that the service is anonymous but said they can get data on the numbers served and report that to the community. She said that Salem had originally asked for data to be reported but after a couple of years said they no longer wanted it. Ms. Wheeler said that all testing is reported to the state. She said they collect information like birthday, gender identity, gender at birth, ethnicity, if pregnant, and if they received testing, and can tell that they tested 5 people who were positive for HIV and 3 were engaged in

care so they will need to try to figure out where are the other two. She said they also track the naloxone care, track overdose responses, to make sure that people are ok. She said that they also ask if a person is homeless or has been incarcerated in the last year, there is a lot of data collected but it is all confidential. Only aggregate data is reported out.

Dr. Fleet asked if they are doing point of care drug testing. Ms. Wheeler replied that they do fentanyl test strips and said that they have also ordered xylazine test strips but they don't know the concentration, and they don't have the right information, so they are getting some false positives from materials used to cut the drugs. Dr. Fleet asked if they are providing any follow up, and how does one engage with the services. Ms. Wheeler replied that in Lynn they see some folks twice a day, some folks once a month, and if they don't see someone they might call them or send a Facebook message, check the Secures app, check obituaries, and work with families. She added that in some cases they will help a parent find their kid, but otherwise if they don't hear from someone they don't tend to search them out. She said that they sometimes just run into people too.

Mr. Durkin said that we have determined there is a need, and asked what she thought would work best here. Ms. Wheeler replied that for Peabody a mobile site would be the best way to start, and they can travel from West Peabody and South Peabody, they can get to the hotels on the highway where there are sex workers and human trafficking, a whole other world that requires a specific response. She reported that Peabody had 14 overdose deaths last year. Mr. Durkin asked what number of Peabody people use your other sites. Ms. Wheeler replied that some people who say they are from Peabody are stuck in Lynn but said she can check the data to see how many people give the Peabody zip code, but said they try not to pry too much. She added that if the numbers are not there it actually shows that Peabody residents are not being served. She said that she knows that one person from the mobile home park gets a large supply of syringes and gives them out. Dr. Fleet asked if they would have to ask permission of the mobile home park owner. Ms. Wheeler said no, they don't have to. She explained that their van is grey with no signage, and they pull up, people come out to the van, they do what they have to do for them, and then move on. She said that unless they are in a place with significant drug activity they wouldn't set up a table. She said that they do sometimes do that in Lynn and Salem. She said that they have an uber account and can send folks to an exchange site as well.

She said that the type and scale of the program depends on how they are approved by the state. Ms. Cameron asked about frequency. Ms. Wheeler replied that they are in Salem two days a week and also do community trainings as needed. Mr. Durkin asked what actions would the Board need to take. Ms. Cameron replied if you want to move forward you will need to vote, but it would be helpful to bring the information to the police and fire chiefs and the Mayor before the board takes any action. Ms. Wheeler said that she would leave the presentation document and the other materials to look at hands on. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Wheeler if she would also e-mail the presentation so that she can share it with the chiefs and Mayor, and Ms. Wheeler agreed that she would do that. Ms. Wheeler said she also has a list of all of the cities and towns who have passed BOH approvals and said there are a little over 60 on the list. Mr. Durkin asked if Public Safety refers people to them. Ms. Wheeler replied that she used to do overdose follow ups with the police. She said that Lynn PD has an excellent community bike team and they will contact them to pick up people and will bring them sharps. Mr. Durkin asked what was the basis for opposition to these programs. Ms. Wheeler replied that some people think that it is encouraging bad behavior. She said that some residents don't like the idea that we are giving folks tools to put things into their bodies, but she said that she replies that there are consumption facilities on every corner selling liquor. She said some people say folks just need to be arrested, and associate harm reduction with needles and don't have any idea what else we do, so we tell them to come to the site and see. Ms. Cameron asked if she would be open to have city officials come? Ms. Wheeler replied yes, as long as participants were not there and added that there also may be folks who wouldn't mind talking about their experience. She said that folks are scared, and said that she has been doing this long enough to understand

people's concerns. Ms. Cameron and the board thanked Ms. Wheeler and Ms. Wheeler thanked the Board for having her.

**Subject: 3. Environmental updates- a) Allied Waste System- Proposed Modification to Wood Recycling Transfer Station**

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron said that they have a few representatives from Sitec Environmental present tonight who have a presentation about proposed modifications to the transfer station at 300 Forest St. Chris Ford and Frank Chimera of Republic Services were present via zoom and Simona Ciuta, Brian Skehan, Michael Quatramoni were present in person from Sitec. Ms. Cameron showed the presentation on the screen and Ms. Ciuta, Senior Project Engineer, along with her colleague Mike Quatrimoni gave the presentation. Ms. Ciuta explained that this new project is at 300 Forest Street. She indicated that on right side is a drawing of the existing building which processes MSW and C&D construction and demolition debris. Trash and garbage trucks come in and come out and a big trailer ships it off site. She said that they were proposing two projects, in the areas highlighted in blue, east of building Allied is proposing a new compactor, on the south on right side an organic processing system. She said that they have no intention of increasing the permitted capacity at the transfer station. Photo on the left shows the proposed compactor location and the photo on the right shows how the compactor installation will look like. She explained that this compacts garbage, that a ram system plate pushes then loads the compressed materials into a truck. She said their intent is for the compactor portion to be completely enclosed and said there will be an excavator inside the building feeding the compactor, in an enclosed area, and there will also be a roof canopy extended over the compactor. On next slide on the right is a side section view, on the left you see an excavator, and a wall, the excavator inside the building feeding the compactor with trash through the building opening. She said there will also be a gap between compactor and building wall, but they will seal that to not allow garbage to fall out. She said this will be a great benefit for Allied, with separate MSW and C&D operations. This area will now will be dedicated to garbage, noise will be limited, no litter generation, and they will have a trench for liquids generated.

Michael Quatrimoni said that this is a substantial project that DEP is very interested in for the processing of organic waste. He said the first step in the process is a pre-submittal meeting with them, adding that they had two meetings already but at the first meeting they didn't have compactor yet but at the second meeting they had the compactor. He said they had submitted their application on May 2nd to DEP, and subsequently had a discussion with Mark Fairbrother the solid waste Section Chief there. He said Fairbrother had some questions, but none were showstoppers, and he wanted to get a partial approval while they are looking at the organics processing unit to enhance operations, and Fairbrother seemed amenable. Fairbrother had some questions which were not difficult but he just wanted some clarification, mainly about litter, and said to show that it is completely sealed so there will be no litter outside of the building. He said they have to respond and give an update on their site assignment, which is why they are here today, to let you know the extent of the project and hope that you wouldn't require a site assignment process, that the magnitude wouldn't require a site assignment modification is the hope. He said that he had early discussions with Ms. Cameron who previously presented to the Board some general info about the project, the fact that the site assignment is fairly vague on some things, as it refers to specific types of waste and amounts but doesn't speak to the specific location of the building on the site, or the size of building, so they hope not to have to go through site assignment because the existing site assignment doesn't preclude us from doing it. The entire parcel is site assigned for processing of waste. Ms. Cameron asked if Fairbrother expressed an opinion on if a site assignment modification is required. Mr. Quatrimoni replied no, it is forthcoming, and waiting on the feedback from the board of health.

Mr. Carli asked if he was correct that the other project they had a review on recently was also a site assignment. Ms. Cameron replied yes. Mr. Quatrimoni listed a few items from the site assignment, that it is from 1990, runs with the entire property, and specifies types of waste but location. He said that they are 50 feet from the property line. Current DEP regs require a 100 feet setback, so they are going to be a little closer,

but it will not impact traffic at the site, but will now be within 30 feet of property line. Mr. Durkin asked if they couldn't do it inside the existing building. Mr. Quatrimoni replied no. Ms. Cameron asked what is adjacent to the site. Mr. Quatrimoni replied one house and goes into the industrial park, and Greenworks is directly behind the transfer station. Ms. Cameron asked what it will bring them closer to. Frank Chimera looked at the satellite view and said they will be closer to the retention pond and wooded area and beyond that is Acme sign, Beacon building products and the Republic office. He said as already was mentioned, there will be no increase in the amount of trash processed, or the operational times, and they don't think it will be detrimental to properties nearby, and a stormwater pollution prevention plan is in place. Mr. Carli asked if this will change the number of truck visits. Chimera replied that the waste will be pushed into transfer trailers and is now being loaded onto trailers. The compactor project will increase the efficiency of the facility, because now they can only load one material type at a time, and this will give two outlets so they can load both material types (MSW and C&D waste) with less time in the transfer facility, the waste moves through facility faster. Mr. Durkin said there will not be a greater number of trips but there will be a greater volume getting pushed by compactor, so greater density. Mr. Quatrimoni said there will be no change in the waste stream, and they expect everything will remain as it currently is. He said the goal of today is to hopefully obtain some sort of correspondence to give to DEP about whether a modification to the site assignment will be required. He added that they are not really expanding the building, but are just adding a piece of ancillary equipment. DEP suggested the waste handling area is increasing, but he said Republic sees it as ancillary to existing operations. Mr. Carli said we are only talking about compactor, not composter. Mr. Quatrimoni replied that is correct. Mr. Carli said if we approve it, it still has to conform with zoning. Mr. Quatrimoni replied that a building permit is in process. The project will conform with local zoning, but not with the DEP solid waste regulations for setback. Ms. Cameron asked if the compaction process will create a nuisance – odor, dust, noise, pests. Mr. Quatrimoni replied no, it is a self-contained container, and he added that this takes away a great deal of work, the compression is done inside the compactor, which is self-contained then a trailer is backed up to it and connected, they lift a door and it pushes the compacted material into the trailer. He added that this reduces odors because as trash currently sits on the floor it generates odors so the result will be less odors because trash is on the floor less time. Mr. Carli asked about safety concerns, what if someone throws in a fire extinguisher or propane tank. Mr. Skehan replied that the loader operators are trained, and know to pick out batteries, etc. He said he is not saying things can't be missed but the loader operators are very vigilant. DEP doesn't allow waste banned materials so they do a vigilant operation looking for items that are banned and potentially hazardous and also for readily recyclable items. Ms. Cameron asked if they missed an item, is it a safety issue for the operator. Mr. Skehan replied that he has been in this business for over 20 years and never saw anything like that happen. He said they do lots of training of operators and also train the waste generators. He also added that he didn't know if this changes anything, but the materials are driven over by excavators and compacted down, so it is already an inherent risk so this doesn't change things and they must use the same level of care. Mr. Durkin asked if the Board was ok with taking this matter under advisement. Mr. Carli agreed and said he would like to wait to review a little and said they can place it on the agenda for next meeting. Ms. Cameron asked Sitec if they had a template of what they would like us to provide to DEP. Ms. Ciuta replied that she can get them that. Mr. Carli said it is a lengthy process if we said this requires a site assignment, and asked if this request is about the timing, or would this create a domino effect with other things impacted. Mr. Quatrimoni replied that it is mostly a timing thing, and since the scope is limited, if they can limit a modification they will save time, as it takes months and months to do the modification. Mr. Durkin said he does view it as an operational change since there was no changing the volume or type of material. Ms. Cameron said she would follow up with info on next month's meeting date and will also notify the Conservation Agent. The representatives from Sitec thanked the Board and Ms. Cameron for their time.

**Subject:** 3. Environmental updates- b) Rousselot

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron said that the timeline of Rousselot's shutdown was shared. She said that she has reached out to them for more information as some processes they will be undertaking may result in odor

issues, for example, in the past when they had to do work on the clarifier, with having to pump out the water they will have a residue of sludge which might mean long periods of terrible odor. She said she will be asking for a nuisance mitigation plan, but is not sure what else can be done. Mr. Carli said if they know the schedule they can do outreach to warn neighbors. Roussetot should do the outreach, and should share their timeline and the anticipated effects on the community and their public outreach plan. Mr. Carli said given the amount of complaints we have received over the years, we should officially request them to present a mitigation plan and a community outreach plan. Mr. Carli made a motion to require a nuisance mitigation plan and community outreach plan, Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all agreed.

**Subject: 3. Environmental updates- c) Rodent Control**

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron said that we did conclude the one year pilot period of the SMART boxes and the fertility control project, and both were pretty expensive to implement. For the fertility control we can't track data, but we can for the SMART boxes, which cost \$72,000 and killed about 900 rats. She said the company says that means that we prevented 25,000 births of rats, but it is still an expensive project, and this ate up a significant portion of the rodent control budget. She said she has put out a new RFP at a lower level of services, as it is unlikely we can continue both of those at the level we were before due to cost. Mr. Carli asked about traditional poisoning or trapping. Ms. Cameron replied that there is concern about poisoning, second generation rodenticides, but they may do a limited amount of that in some areas, but they would like to move in another direction. Dr. Fleet asked if fertility control is less expensive. Ms. Cameron replied yes, it was about \$50,000, but this year they only have a total of \$50,000 to spend.

**Subject: 3. Environmental updates- d) HHW Day**

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron said that 150 cars came through for Household Hazardous waste day, so it was a very successful event. Mr. Durkin asked what happens if someone misses the day. Ms. Cameron said that we have reciprocity with other communities, but people will have to pay the other community the whole cost, \$60 or so, but most people are happy to have the ability to do it. Mr. Durkin asked if there is a place at DPW to drop these things off. Ms. Cameron replied not for chemicals, but said that the DPS takes motor oil, fluorescent lightbulbs, tires, propane tanks, etc. year round. Mr. Durkin asked if there is a fee to drop those things. Ms. Cameron replied that there is a fee for electronics and mattresses but not for anything else.

**Subject: 4. Code enforcement updates-a.) Housing: 8 Winthrop St; 1000 Cranebrook Way; 10 Summer St; 56 Washington St.; 120 Foster St.**

**Discussion:** Reviewed. Ms. Cameron said that nothing unusual to report.

**Subject: 4 Code Enforcement Updates -b.) Nuisances: 11 Gardner St.; 100 Main St., 570 Lowell St., 635 Lowell St.; 5 Murray St.; 238 Lynn St.; 136 Washington St.; 27 N. Central St.; 19 Paleologos St.; 67 Foster St.; 11 Center St.; 15 King St.; 272 Lowell St.; 231 Lynnfield St.; 120 Foster St.; 9 Ayer St.**

**Discussion:** Reviewed. Ms. Cameron said that 15 King Street will be an ongoing issue. 9 Ayer Street is where Peabody police found semi- automatic guns recently, a little unsettling for inspector Suckney as he had been out there recently.

**Subject: 4. Code enforcement updates- c.) Food:**

**Discussion:** Reviewed

**Subject: 5. Permitting update a. List of permits issued in May 2023**

**Discussion:** Reviewed

**Subject: 6. Public Health Nursing updates: a. May 2023 surveillance report**

**Discussion:** Reviewed.

**Subject: 6** Public Health Nursing updates: b. We CARE Project

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reminded the Board that they have been allowed to divert some Covid grant funding to other public health initiatives, and the new senior citizen outreach program is launching in July. Slow roll out but they think it will be a good program to promote better mental health in older adults.

**Subject: 7.** Social service supports a). Needs of immigrant families

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that there are 15 families at Extended Stay, at Holiday Inn there are 63 families, and there are 17 families at Springhill Suites. She said there are 117 adults and 109 children at Holiday Inn alone. Providers are communicating well, and clergy are collaborating to try to help with services and provide food, diapers, etc,

**Subject: 7.** Social service supports b). Social Services Division

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that on June 8 she appeared before the City Council and they agreed to use the Opiate funds coming to the City from the AG's settlement, an expected \$2.7 million over next seventeen years, for the creation of a social service division in the city government to provide case management and crisis stabilization services.

Ms. Cameron reported that city council voted to approve the new division and the positions, and the Board met Sara Grinnell, the new director. She said that they will be posting within the month for the positions of social worker and case manager and said they will be located at the Police outreach resource center at the Northshore mall.

**Subject: 8** School Health updates-a) Updated Lice Policy

**Discussion:** Reviewed. Ms. Cameron reported that the school nurse leader has proposed to amend the existing "no nit" policy, as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National School Nurse Association, the Massachusetts School Nurse Organization, and other professional associations say that the no nit policy doesn't have a public health or medical basis. They state that a "no live lice" policy is more appropriate as long as the child is being treated. Ms. Cameron said the move away from a no nit policy and move toward no live lice policy will give the school nurse additional discretion to figure out how to best address each situation. Dr. Fleet said she thinks it looks great and said it is a great update. The policy has been approved by City Physician Alain Chaoui.

Mr. Carli made a motion to adjust the health department's lice policy as indicated in the new document. Dr. Fleet seconded the motion. It was unanimously agreed to support the change in lice policy.

**Subject: 9.** Staffing Updates

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that Inspector Bill Pasquale has retired, and that inspector Randy Suckney has move into Bill's position. She said that they will advertise Randy's position but said they are going to be understaffed for a few months, but will prioritize appropriately. She said she is happy that the collective bargaining process is done, and that the public health nurses have negotiated higher wages for entry level nurses. She said that they had three school nursing positions empty all year, and are hopeful that these new pay rates will allow them to start the school year with the positions filled. Mr. Durkin asked if Randy will continue to do tobacco inspections. Ms. Cameron replied that they will keep him on tobacco and housing and pools.

**Subject: 10.** Correspondence: a) From Hayes Engineering re: 25 Farm Ave. and b.) From SITEC re: Wood Recycling Transfer Station

**Discussion:** Reviewed

**Other Business:**

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that today we became aware that one of the local churches is sponsoring a cigar night, and each attendee gets three cigars. She said this is not allowed under our regulations. Apparently this is a long standing cultural tradition. She said if they are doing it outdoors, and if people bring their own, it may be ok. Mr. Carli said he goes to a similar event at the Shriners auditorium every year, attendees pay \$150 but receive something like \$3000 in cigars in the bag, and said he wonders how they do it.

**Next Meeting Date:** July 27, 2023.

**Adjournment:** A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carli at 7:03 p.m. The Motion was seconded by Dr. Fleet. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to adjourn.