



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held February 8, 2022.

MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 11, 2022

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 951 6338 1647

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Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so via ZOOM. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted and public participation in any public hearing conducted during this meeting shall be remote means only. The public may view/join meeting from a phone/computer/tablet.

This meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Ms. Lani Criasia, Chair. Other members present were Mr. Chris Cella, Mr. Steve Garabedian and Ms. Linda Lermond. Also present were Health Inspectors Ms. Danielle Edmands and Mr. Daniel Markman, and Jeanne M. Gniadek, BOH Administrator.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Criasia asked that the meeting minutes be tabled until the next meeting.

Title 5 – Sewage Disposal – Local Upgrade – 356 Purgatory Road: Present for this meeting was Margaret Bacon, PE, Civil Site Engineering. The local upgrade affects the abutter due to the requested reduction in offset to property line. Due to uncertainty regarding the affected abutter this matter was tabled to the next meeting.

Food Service Standards – New China Pacific Restaurant: Ms. Criasia asked Mr. Markman to provide an update to the Board from his latest inspection at this facility.

Mr. Markman stated that there has been marked improvement. He noted more frequent hand-washing, improvement in food storage methods. He also noted that Ms. Chen answered all of his questions without hesitation.

Ms. Edmands stated that they inspected on January 10th and that she noted significant improvement from past inspections. She stated that a few minor violations were noted but feels they will progress and improve with the assistance of the food safety consultant.

Ms. Criasia noted that one of the violations was in regard to food not being properly covered. Ms. Edmands stated that yes that was noted but it was for just one container of chicken and other foods were not affected.

Mr. Cella questioned the reporting process noting that page 3 of the report has notations of violations. Mr. Markman stated that if a violation is corrected on site at the time of the inspection

then it would not be noted as a violation since it was immediately corrected. He informed the Board that Page 1 of the report notes Priority violations.

Ms. Criasia asked if staff had yet received their ServSafe certifications. Ms. Edmands noted that two employees have since been certified. It appears that they are working in shifts to ensure that a certified person is working in the kitchen at all times. Ms. Edmands stated that Mr. Kwan, their consultant, is planning on returning to the establishment on Saturday, January 16th, unannounced. After his inspection/consultation Mr. Kwan will send his report to the Board.

Ms. Criasia asked what their current inspection schedule is. Ms. Edmands stated that twice a week is too much. Mr. Markman stated that with Mr. Kwan's guidance and noting significant improvement that once per month is more appropriate. Mr. Garabedian agreed.

Mr. Markman stated that the habits they need to form take time. He noted that they were very thorough with regards to hand-washing – washing all the way up to their elbows, scrubbing fingernails, and washing for at least 20 seconds. Mr. Markman noted that it's only been a few weeks so if they can continue on this path then he is hopeful.

There was some discussion on the who, what, when and where of the ServSafe certifications for these two employees. Mr. Kwan noted the same to Mr. Markman and Ms. Edmands.

The Board agreed to continue with monthly inspections and to submit concerns regarding the ServSafe certifications to the National Restaurant Association and to Mr. Kwan.

Advinia Care @ Northbridge: Present for this meeting was Mr. David Jasinski, Executive Director, Michael Brown, Regional Environmental Director for Pointe Group, and Mr. Larry Ayotte from the water testing company Garrett-Callahan.

Mr. Brown went into the history of obtaining this facility and inheriting this problem back in September of 2021 when he reached out to the Director of the Whitinsville Water Company, Randy Swigor, for guidance. He stated that he had met Mr. Ayotte at a legionella seminar and asked him to check out the situation at Advinia.

Ms. Criasia asked if they were still using IWC for water testing. Mr. Brown stated that they are no longer using IWC stating they had some concerns in regards to the way they handled things. As an example he said that IWC had Advinia's employees pulling water samples whereas Garrett-Callahan uses their own employees as samples can be time sensitive. Mr. Ayotte agreed noting that when they take their samples they have them shipped overnight via FedEx.

Ms. Criasia questioned the locations of the filters they recently installed. Mr. Ayotte stated that they are located at the sinks and showers. Mr. Cella asked if they were testing pre and post filter. Mr. Ayotte stated that they were. Mr. Cella noted that the only thing recently provided to the Board regarding testing was for four tests conducted on December 16, 2021. Mr. Jasinski stated that they have more tests – he thought that they had been forwarded to the Board of Health

Mr. Jasinski stated that major plumbing has occurred recently. The two 10-inch water lines were "married" and will now flow with greater volume through a 2-inch line creating greater pressure, lessening the opportunity for bacteria to grow. Mr. Ayotte stated they are conducting a series of legionella tests ensuring that the samples are collected properly and transported properly.

Mr. Ayotte further explained his concerns over IWC noting that IWC testing would note 60 colonies but when Garrett-Callahan tested at these same locations they only got 1-2 colonies questioning the accuracy of the IWC test results.

Mr. Cella stated that he would like to compare the IWC results to the tests that they did before filters and after filter installations.

Ms. Criasia asked how long Garrett-Callahan is contracted for. Mr. Ayotte stated that there is no set contract – he is here for the duration.

Ms. Criasia stated she was happy to hear that the two pipes have been married and inspected by the Whitinsville Water Company. Mr. Cella asked to see the work orders on the pipes – not the cost of the contract just what was done.

Ms. Criasia asked how many tests have been done. Mr. Brown stated that on December 8th they did 22 tests and on December 13th they did 11 tests. He stated they used the IWC list to test in the same locations they tested.

Ms. Edmands asked if they could send the Board their protocols for how tests are taken.

Ms. Edmands stated that when she and Mr. Markman inspected the kitchen it was noted that they were using the water to cook foods. Mr. Jasinski stated that they were but that they were boiling it first. Ms. Edmands also noted that employees were using that water to wash their hands and expressed concern that they were washing in that water and then prepping food. Mr. Jasinski stated that there has been no negative outcome to staff.

Ms. Criasia questioned whether the patients, family members and staff are being taken care of the way they should be? Mr. Jasinski stated that they are – that he is providing very good care to his residents.

Mr. Cella stated that the Board never received the flushing reports including how long fixtures were flushed, etc. He stated this is disappointing and makes him leary on the accuracy of prior reports. He noted that in one report the eye wash station wasn't noted as being flushed, but then another report filled that part in. Mr. Brown noted that the eye wash station is cold water. It was questioned whether legionella was only in the hot water system. They stated it wasn't but that it is less likely to be in the cold water system (under 68°F). Ms. Edmands noted less likely, but still a possibility.

Mr. Jasinski noted that they are cooking with filtered water, residents are provided bottled water for drinking, and that they are still bringing in ice.

Ms. Criasia questioned how many filters were installed. Mr. Jasinski stated that there are 26 in the Assisted Living Facility and 4 on the nursing home side.

Mr. Jasinski stated that they are working on resolving the root cause and the filters were installed to help residents with showers but the ultimate goal is to get to the root cause.

Ms. Criasia questioned how many samples they expected to pull next week. Mr. Ayotte sated he was unsure but that they could do another complete series.

Ms. Lermond questioned if they were taking samples from taps with and without filters. Mr. Brown stated 90% have filters but that they can pull from fixtures without filters. Ms. Lermond would like it noted in their report as to which fixtures were tested that have filters on them.

Mr. Ayotte questioned whether they could use the dishwashing station. He stated that they would like to put the unit back on-line. He stated that water is sterilized at 180°F. Ms. Lermond questioned whether we know that legionella is killed at 180°F. Mr. Ayotte stated that he has that documentation and will send it to the Board. The Board will need to review this matter.

Health Inspector Part-Time Position: The Board reviewed the applications received for the part-time health inspector position. Interviews with 3 of the 4 candidates will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 5:15 PM to be scheduled at 15-minute intervals.

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Proposals: The Board reviewed the budget proposals prepared by Ms. Gniadek for a level-funded BOH budget, a BOH budget with the addition of a full-time agent, and a budget for the Quaker Street Landfill. The budget for the full-time agent was amended. Final budgets to be submitted to the Town Manager for review.

Old & New Business: The Town's **Sexual Harassment Policy** had been distributed previously via email. Ms. Gniadek requested that the Board members sign the policy and either submit to her or directly to the Town Manager's office.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM was made by Mr. Cella and seconded by Ms. Lermond – all in favor.

Attested by,

Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator

Next Meeting scheduled for: January 18, 2022 at 5:15 PM

List of Documents utilized by Board of Health
Meeting Date: January 11, 2022

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1) December 14, 2021 DRAFT Meeting Minutes
- 2) December 20, 2021 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

B. Title 5 Sewage Disposal

- 3) Local Upgrade – 356 Purgatory Road – Form 9A Application for Local Upgrade Approval

C. Food Service Standards

- 4) New China Pacific Restaurant
 - a. Letter to New China (December 22, 2021)
 - b. Email (December 20, 2021) from Roger Kwan to Danielle Edmands
 - c. Email (January 9, 2022) from Roger Kwan to Danielle Edmands
 - d. DRAFT Memorandum to National Restaurant Association
 - e. ServSafe Certification – Chun Lin
 - f. ServSafe Certification – Lizhi Lin
 - g. Inspection Report dated December 22, 2021
 - h. Inspection Report dated December 29, 2021
 - i. Inspection Report dated January 10, 2022

D. Advinia Care @ Northbridge

- 5) Updates / Review
 - a. Email (December 14, 2021) from David Jasinski
 - b. BOH Letter to Advinia (December 17, 2021)
 - c. Email (December 29, 2021) from David Jasinski
 - d. Legionella Summary Sheet – Certificate of Analysis
 - e. Email (January 5, 2022) from Randy Swigor
 - f. Email (January 6, 2022) from David Jasinski
 - g. Inspection Report dated December 17, 2021 & December 20, 2021

E. Health Inspector Part-Time Position

- 6) Review Applications
 - a. Job Ad for Part-Time Health Inspector Position
 - b. Application/Resume: Kaitlin Donahue
 - c. Application/Resume: Patrick Hannon
 - d. Application/Resume: James Racicot
 - e. Application/Resume: Gary Covino

F. Old & New Business

- 7) Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Proposals
 - a. BOH FY 2023 Budget
 - b. BOH FY 2023 Budget with addition of Full-Time Agent
 - c. Quaker Street FY 2023 Budget

G. Citizen's Forum

H. Correspondence

- 8) Email (January 10, 2022) regarding Mask Mandate in Northbridge