



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH

Aldrich School Town Hall Annex - 14 Hill Street
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The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held June 14, 2022

MEETING MINUTES - MAY 10, 2022

This meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM by Ms. Lani Criasia, Chair. Other members present were Mr. Chris Cella, Mr. Steve Garabedian and Ms. Linda Lermond. Also present were Ms. Danielle Edmands and Mr. Daniel Markman, Regional Health Inspectors, Ms. Kaitlyn Donahue, Health Agent, and Jeanne M. Gniadek, BOH Administrator. Ms. Erin Meagher who is seeking appointment to the Board of Health was also present for this meeting.

Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Mr. Cella to accept the minutes of **April 5, 2022**. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian. The vote was all in favor.

New China Pacific: Present for this meeting was Ms. Jinny Chen, owner of the New China Pacific food establishment.

Ms. Criasia stated that she was beyond angry over what she was telling her consultant to tell or to not tell the Board of Health on his inspection reports. She said it was unacceptable, that she was being fraudulent. She stated that it was disrespectful after all that this Board has done to help her.

Ms. Chin stated that the consultant comes every month but only has simple things to tell her to correct. She felt that Dan and Danielle provided more information for her than her consultant. She said she was fine with them coming more often. Ms. Criasia stated that that was not acceptable. Dan and Danielle should not be going out there so often.

Mr. Cella stated that it is the same violations being cited over and over. They seem to get fixed at time of inspection but then they happen again and again.

Mr. Garabedian asked Ms. Chen what she expected to happen at this time. She stated that she has another month with the consultant and that she would continue with that. She felt that Mr. Kwan, her consultant, just wanted to have his contract extended. She stated that he comes in and writes the same stuff all the time and just leaves.

Mr. Cella stated that her restaurant has been given more chances than any other restaurant in town since his time on the Board. He noted that with other establishments when violations occur, they fix them, but her establishment keeps continuing to have the same violations.

Ms. Criasia stated that after reviewing the reports the same violations keep getting cited. She stated that she is not in control of her staff. Mr. Garabedian stated that when the inspectors and consultants leave then her staff just reverts to doing what they always do which is not acceptable.

Ms. Chen stated she has two more years on her lease. Ms. Criasia stated that that is not the Board's problem. We are trying to make sure that she serves safe food so no one gets sick.

Ms. Chen argued that the kitchen is not clean when they are cooking because that's just the way it is – you clean after. Ms. Criasia stated that they should be cleaning as they go. Mr. Cella stated that she has excuse after excuse and that she has to follow the same standards as all the other food establishments in this town.

Ms. Chen stated that her consultant never finds anything. She apologized to the Board. Ms. Criasia asked her what she was apologizing for. Ms. Chen stated that the issue with the mushrooms (found in a bag with bugs) was her fault. She apologized for her staff not cleaning up. Ms. Criasia stated that her staff falls under her and that she is failing in not making sure they do things correctly.

The Board asked her why she didn't have any sanitizer in her sanitizer buckets. She stated that she has had to change this process because her test strips were not showing the sanitizer (bleach) that she was using.

Ms. Criasia stated that she felt Ms. Chen is not capable of running a restaurant. Mr. Garabedian stated that between our inspectors and your consultant you are being inspected twice a month. No other restaurant knows that they are being inspected twice a month yet you continue to have violation after violation even though you know you are going to be inspected.

Ms. Chen stated that she felt that the Board of Health was being harsh. Ms. Criasia stated that the Board was not harsh when it would have taken just one vote to close her down last December.

Ms. Chen voiced her frustration over her consultant and the previous ones that she had hired that took her money and did nothing for her.

Ms. Criasia asked if the Board had the right to close this establishment. Mr. Markman stated that they could not at this time. The Board could suspend due to an imminent health hazard and then would need to come up with a date for a hearing but since there is no recent inspection report from the inspectors you would have to do that first. At the hearing she would have the right to legal representation. The Board reviewed the regulations and process for suspension and revocation of a food establishment permit.

Ms. Criasia stated that the Board needs to move forward with the revocation process. Mr. Markman stated that he would be remiss if he didn't inform the Board that it has been several weeks since an inspection was done at this facility and suggested that a current inspection was necessary.

Ms. Criasia instructed Mr. Markman and Ms. Edmands to conduct an inspection and if necessary then they are to close them (suspend their permit) immediately. Once that happens the Board could issue a notice of Revocation and go through the legal process to revoke their food permit.

Old & New Business: Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that she received notice that additional work will be required at the **Quaker Street Landfill** to determine the extent of waste that may be located at the toe of the slope towards the river.

Ms. Edmands informed the Board that she conducted a re-inspection at **The Neighborhood Kitchen** and that once again, they were found preparing food without a food manager on site. Ms. Edmands noted that this would be their 3rd offense and asked if the Board was in favor of issuing a non-criminal disposition ticket. The Board was fully in favor of the issuance of a third offense to this establishment in the amount of \$300.

Ms. Donahue and Mr. Markman updated the Board on the inspection they conducted on May 9th at **Kyoto Japanese Restaurant**. It was noted that the violations were significant enough to warrant closure of the food establishment. A re-inspection to determine if they can re-open was scheduled for Wednesday, May 11th at 11:00 AM.

Ms. Donahue updated the Board on a recent fire at the **Dunkin Donuts** located on Providence Road. The fire was minimal, but the discharging of the fire extinguisher was cause for the establishment to close and for some foods, not much since they were in the process of closing, to be thrown out. Ms. Donahue did order the owner to hire a professional restoration company to address the mess caused by the extinguisher.

Mr. Cella asked that the Board consider amendments to their **Fee Schedule and Food Establishment Inspection Policy** to address additional inspections when necessary to cover the Board's expenses (paying the health inspector for additional inspections).

Correspondence: The following correspondence was distributed to the Board:

- Notice that the Northbridge Recycling Center, located behind the Fire Station, will close permanently as of June 30, 2022
- Notice from David Jasinski, Advinia Care, of his progress with installation of a water disinfection system

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 6:22 PM was made by Mr. Cella and seconded by Mr. Garabedian – all in favor.

Attested by,

Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator

Next Meeting scheduled for: June 14, 2022 @ 5:15 PM
(This will be an in-person meeting)

List of Documents utilized by Board of Health
Meeting Date: May 10, 2022

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1) April 5, 2022 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

B. Food Service Establishment Standards

- 2) New China Pacific Restaurant
 - a. BOH Letter (April 26, 2022) Notice to Appear sent to New China Pacific
 - b. Audit Reports (Roger Kwan)
 1. December 19, 2021
 2. January 15, 2022
 3. January 26, 2022
 4. February 7, 2022
 5. February 19, 2022
 6. March 5, 2022
 7. March 19, 2022
 8. April 3, 2022
 9. April 16, 2022
 10. May 7, 2022
 - c. Emails from Roger Kwan Food Safety Consultant
 1. May 8, 2022
 2. April 5, 2022
 - d. Board of Health Inspection Reports
 1. February 7, 2022
 2. March 14, 2022
 3. April 11, 2022
 - e. Cease & Deist Order – Sample Letter

C. Old & New Business – *No documents*

D. Citizen's Forum

E. Correspondence

Miscellaneous

- Notice of Closure of Northbridge Recycling Center
- Advinia Care Update re: Water Disinfection System