



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held September 13, 2011.

MEETING MINUTES - August 8, 2011

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Paul McKeon, Chairman. Other members present were Mr. Chris Cella, Mr. Steve Garabedian and Ms. Ann Marie Thompson. Mr. Scott Chase was absent. Also present was Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator, and Ms. Terry Gilchrist, Health Agent.

Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Garabedian to accept the minutes of **July 12, 2011**. Motion seconded by Mr. Cella; the vote was 3-0 in favor; Ms. Thompson abstained.

Food Establishment: King Jade HACCP Plan – Request for Variance: Present for this hearing was Mr. Nathan Ng, owner of King Jade Restaurant.

Ms. Gilchrist informed the Board that the preparation of sushi requires a variance from the State Sanitary Code for Food Establishments because the rice used in the preparation of sushi has to be rendered non-potentially hazardous by lowering the Ph which is done by adding vinegar to the rice. The Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan which is required by the State Sanitary Code for this type of activity was prepared by Sam Wong and was reviewed by Ms. Gilchrist. Ms. Gilchrist stated that Mr. Wong is highly respected in the food service and public health industry and that she finds the HACCP plan acceptable.

Mr. Cella questioned how the rice is tested and what is done if the rice is not within an acceptable ph level. Ms. Gilchrist responded that each batch of rice is tested using ph test strips and that the chef is required to log the ph level – these logs must be kept for a minimum of 60 days and must be available for review by the health department.

The HACCP plan shows that Raymond Dai, owner, and Tom Lin, chef, have been trained in the HACCP plan. Mr. Cella questioned whether the establishment would be allowed to serve and prepare sushi if either of these men were not working at the establishment. Ms. Gilchrist stated that the sushi, if already prepared, would be allowed to be served. It was also noted that all remaining sushi rice is to be discarded at the end of each day.

Mr. Cella stated his concern that if this is not properly prepared and monitored then there is a serious potential for a food borne illness to occur. Mr. Ng stated that he is aware of that and that it would be very bad for their business if someone got ill. Mr. Ng did not attend the HACCP training with Mr. Wong and therefore was unable to answer questions posed by Mr. Cella. Mr. Ng stated that he is hoping to re-open the establishment next week as it has been closed for extensive renovations.

A motion was made by Ms. Thompson to grant the variance to allow the preparation of sushi at the King Jade Restaurant with the stipulation that Ms. Gilchrist inspect the facility two weeks after its opening and again one month after that to ensure compliance with the HACCP plan. Failure to maintain compliance with the protocols in the HACCP plan will result in the immediate revocation of this variance. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian. The vote was 3-1 in favor with Mr. Cella voting in opposition.

Earth Removal Board – Designation of Board of Health Representative: In accordance with Section 7-200 of the Northbridge Code of Regulations governing Earth Removal, the Board discussed the nomination of the Board of Health designee.

Motion made by Mr. Cella to nominate Paul McKeon as the Board of Health designee to the Northbridge Earth Removal Board. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was all in favor.

273 Providence Road - Update: Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that the Housing Court judge heard the case regarding this property on July 14, 2011. The judge asked the property owner how much time he felt was needed to comply with the Board's order to clean up his property. The owner asked for two months. The judge granted the owner until September 30, 2011 to have the property cleaned up noting that failure to comply within this time frame would result in penalties of \$100 per day for each day after that he remains non-compliant with the Board of Health order.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was distributed to the Board:

- Memorandum from the office of the Town Manager regarding the Fall Annual Town Meeting which has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, 2011

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM was made by Mr. Garabedian and seconded by Mr. Cella – all in favor.

Attested by,

Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator

*List of Documents utilized by Board of Health
Meeting Date: August 8, 2011*

- 1) DRAFT Minutes of July 12, 2011 Meeting
- 2) Food Establishment – King Jade – Request for Variance
 - a) Letter from Attorney Henry Lane dated August 3, 2011
 - b) Letter from MD Consulting requesting variance for King Jade Restaurant dated August 8, 2011
 - c) Food Code regulations specific to variance Requirements
 - d) Sushi Rice: Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan
- 3) Section 7-200 of the Town of Northridge Code of Regulations for the Earth Removal Board
- 4) Housing Court Preliminary Injunction for 273 Providence Road
- 5) Correspondence
 - a) Memorandum from the Office of the Town Manager regarding the Fall Annual Town Meeting