



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH

PATRICIA L. ANDRADE, M.D.  
KIMBERLY A. GRIFFITH, PSY.D.

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
DAMON O. CHAPLIN

***APPROVED MINUTES***

**Regular Board of Health Meeting**

**Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Board to Convene Via Remote Participation**

**Alternative Means of Public Access Provided: Zoom Meeting/ Telephone Conference Call**

**To Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/3966365159>**

**Dial-In: 1 646 558 8656 US Meeting ID: 396 636 5159**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. meeting remotely per zoom communications which has been allowed per the Governor due to the pandemic this meeting is being recorded.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

**Present were Patricia Andrade, M.D.  
Kimberly A. Griffith, PSY.D.  
Damon Chaplin, Director**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Andrade called for a motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 18, 2021. **SECONDED: by ROLL CALL - Dr. Griffith MOTION CARRIES.**

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Request for Hearing: 127 W Rodney French Blvd. Establishment: Whaling City Tattoo Company; Re: Request for Body Art Apprentice approval for Liana Nagle.**

**Invitees: Liana Nagle, Apprentice  
Tim Creed, Owner  
Sofia DaCosta, Sanitarian  
Joseph Carvalho, Public Health Program Manager**

Dr. Andrade asked Sofia DaCosta if there were any issues with this apprentice application?

Sofia Da Costa stated that there are no issues with the application she has provided all the documents necessary.

Dr. Andrade asked Liana if she had any comments?

Liana Nagle stated she is just anxious to get started.

**MOTION:** by Dr. Andrade to accept the application for Liana Nagle to apprentice at Whaling City Tattoo Company on 127 West Rodney French Blvd. **SECONDED:** by **ROLL CALL** – Dr. Griffith and Dr. Andrade **YES.** All in favor. **MOTION CARRIES.**

**B. Request for Hearing: 468 Brock Ave., Establishment:  
Little City Tattoo; Re: Request for license Body Art Practitioner and Establishment approval for Elvin Gonzalez and body art apprentice requesting approval for Brendalee Galarza.**

**Invitees: Sofia DaCosta, Sanitarian  
Elvin Gonzalez, Owner of Little City Tattoo  
Brendalee Galarza, Owner/Apprentice  
Joseph Carvalho, Public Health Program Manager**

Sofia stated because of the way the meetings have gone with zoning board they have not met yet and has not been approved yet by the zoning board. They are scheduled to meet with zoning board for February 17, 2022. That is why they have not done any work on the plans to have the establishment ready to open. Her only suggestion is a conditional approval, or we would have to move it to next BOH meeting.

The board agreed until things are intact, we should put it on hold.

Dr. Andrade stated to Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Galarza we would rather have the applications complete before we act on it. When everything is done then Mr. Gonzalez and Ms. Galarza can come before the board again.

**C. Discussing Body Art equipment by Tattoo Facilities and their ability to sell body art equipment.**

**Invitees: Sofia DaCosta, Sanitarian  
Joseph Carvalho, Public Health Program Manager**

Sofia briefly talked about regulations. The restrictions of Board of Health body art regs we have stipulations say that body art establishments cannot sell tattoo equipment. Recently she became aware of a business Diversity Tattoo that was looking to open in the city that is going to just do retail sale of body art equipment. There are no restrictions in body art regs for the sale of general tattoo or body art equipment at a retail level just at a body art establishment location.

Dr. Andrade stated but at an established body art location they cannot sell equipment. Does this business realize this? Sofia stated there is nothing saying that they cannot. Right now, this company can purchase body art equipment to anyone online which is what this business has been doing but they were looking to sell at a tattoo place too.

Dr. Andrade mentioned we can prohibit the sale of body art equipment across the board or we can see if they are talking about piercing, tattooing, etc. prohibited in our regulation. When one sells body art equipment it covers a lot of different types of devices.

Mr. Chaplin stated the best idea is we need to consider having only licensed people selling to licensed individuals. Only body art establishments can sell body art equipment to licensed body art practitioners. Dr. Andrade agreed. She does not think it's a good idea for any body art equipment to be sold to the general public there is no way to regulate it.

Dr. Griffith stated she doesn't think necessarily that the person selling the body art equipment be licensed but the person buying the equipment should be licensed practitioners. Concerned if whether the equipment that is being sold if its bran new or used.

Dr. Andrade mentioned that we need to get some short regulation in place so that we have something since this is happening soon.

Mr. Chaplin stated Sofia and I will draft some recommendations that the Board brought forward and present it to the solicitor's office and redraft an amendment to the regulations we have now and modify it until we get it right.

**D. Approval for apprenticeship guidelines/training program.**

**Invitees:** Sofia DaCosta, Sanitarian  
Joseph Carvalho, Public Health Program Manager

Sofia discussed the apprenticeship guidelines/training program stated that there is some language in the apprentice amendments of the body art regulations that there is to be an apprenticeship training program in place and some guidelines regarding that. It would require the hours of practice almost like a task list of what body art apprentice is required to do with the practitioner. There is a task list we use as a backup, but no formal guidelines put in place that was approved so Sofia is putting together a formal guideline that stipulates all the requirements. She used guideline of body art establishment regulations/apprenticeship between Lowell and Cambridge. This information was sent to the board in email to look over.

Mr. Chaplin stated for the next meeting he can pull up some apprenticeship programs for the board to review besides the one that Sofia presented.

**E. Approval of private drinking well regulations with intention of following Mass DEP well guidelines.**

**Invitees:** Damon Chaplin, Director of Health  
Sofia DaCosta, Sanitarian  
Joseph Carvalho, Public Health Program Manager

Tabled until next meeting.

**4. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting to be determined for end of March 2022.

## 5. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### A. General Updates

Mr. Chaplin went over the covid numbers for New Bedford as of February 3<sup>rd</sup> 513 deaths. 31,926 positive cases. We are seeing a decline our average incident rate is between 80 – 150 per day; the percentage of positivity is 21.2%; tests are 12,659 over a 14-day average. Seeing a strong decrease over the last month, hospitalization numbers are decreasing as well. Received some grant funding to support the contact tracing and now shifting to elderly to see if they have gotten their booster shots. Still providing clinics supported by New Bedford and Dept. of Public Health every day of the week except for Wednesdays and Sundays. Testing is 5 days a week as well in next couple of weeks will probably be losing the Wednesday for testing at Project Beacon.

Question relative to the Marijuana facilities - because we are in covid, community meetings that they are required to do for the Health Dept; do we allow virtual community meetings, or do we offer the in person and the virtual? Wanted to let the board know so we can discuss it in a future meeting.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING

## 7. ADJOURN

Dr. Andrade **adjourned** the meeting at **6:36 p.m.**

A true record attest:

  
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Health Department Chairperson

BOH Meeting Minutes Approved 5 / 5 / 22