



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE

MAYOR

PAULETTE RENAULT-CARAGIANES

DIRECTOR

MINUTES

BOARD OF HEALTH

Regular Meeting

March 21, 2013

5:00 pm

City Hall Annex Conference Room

Present: Paulette Renault-Caragianes (Health Director)
Dr. Brian Green, Board Member (Chair)
Babette Mello, Board Member
Paula Machado, Board Member
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)

Absent: None

Staff Members in Attendance: None

Guests: Mr. Rosemond Falaise, Owner Highland Creole Cuisine Restaurant and
Mr. Douglas Kress, Acting Superintendent of Inspectional Services

Meeting Called to Order: by Dr. Green and seconded by Ms. Machado at 5:006 pm

Previous Minutes: On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Ms. Machado:

"The February 28, 2013 Minutes were approved as circulated."

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Variance Request: None

Hearing: A hearing was conducted on **Highland** Creole Cuisine regarding the results of recent inspections, one of which resulted in closure of the restaurant for 9 days. Highland Creole Cuisine's routine and re-inspections continue to have the same violations repeated multiple times. During the shutdown, the owner was able to correct/fix most of the violations, received approval to reopen. However, Mr. Kress communicated that the contracted food establishment inspector Maureen Lee strongly recommend to the Board of Health that Mr. Falaise hires a food consultant to educate and help him get his restaurant up to code as a condition of continued operations.

Dr. Green made a motion to have an inspection of Highland Creole Cuisine done within the next 8 to 10 weeks. If that inspection shows the same level of violations as in the past, the next inspection will be conducted within a short time frame the owner of the restaurant will be required to appear in front of the BOH. Dr. Green made a motion for a vote – All were in favor.

MOTION CARRIED

UNANIMOUSLY

Dr. Green made a motion to have the Highland Creole Cuisine's owner be required to obtain the services of a certified Food Consultant to address and help him with his challenges within the next month. Dr. Green mad a motion takes a vote – All were in favor. A letter will be sent to Mr Falaise outlining this requirement

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Medical Marijuana Update: On March 13, 2013, Martha Coakley, the Attorney General, issued a decision that no town or city in the state cannot legally prohibit/ban medical marijuana dispensaries from opening within their boundaries.

Restaurant Inspections – February 2013: The restaurant inspections were reviewed by the board. The La Quinta Hotel had an inspection of their pool which failed. They voluntarily shut the pool down until the violations were remedied. Since La Quinta continues to voluntarily close their pool when inspected, a recommendation from Maureen Lee was made via Doug Kress to have La Qunita to appear in front of the Board of Health for a hearing. All agreed. Lotus Express an establishment that was granted a variance last month was recently inspected and had numerous violations.

Policy/Permit Updates: The following regulations on grease traps, temporary and mobile truck food are all still pending as of March 21, 2013 and have not been finalized.

Health Department Updates: SMEA and the City have created a new salary chart for school nurses, which is competitive with other cities and towns. If approve for the next fiscal budget, 2 school nurse positions will be added to the budget. Another SKIP program will be implemented at Somerville High to meet the needs of high school age students with special health care needs.. The School Department has agreed to cost share the first year in operation. The East Somerville School will be re-opening in the fall. We are looking at one of our vacant school nurse position to work ½ at the Healey and ½ at Somerville High School. A proclamation will be presented to Barbara Carney by the Board of Alderman at their 2nd week in April. Ms. Carney was a school nurse who recently retired after 29+ years of service with the city.

Health Department Updates: On a motion made by Ms. Mello and seconded by Dr. Green, the Health Department updates were approved.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Announcement: National Public Health Week will be the first week in April. The Health Director will send out a calendar with events happening for the week.

Next Meetings: Thursday, April 25, 2013 @ 5pm
Thursday, May 23, 2013 @ 5pm

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dr. Green to adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm, seconded by Ms. Mello.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Henkle (Recording Secretary)
March 27, 2013