



# CITY OF NEWBURYPORT

## BOARD OF HEALTH

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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### **\*Remote\* Board of Health Meeting**

**March 17, 2022 7:00pm**

#### **Attendance**

Dr. Robin Blair, Chair

Dr. Sam Merabi

Dr. Rob Slocum

Michael Lawler, Office Manager

#### **Meeting Minutes:**

I. 7:00pm – Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order by Dr. Blair at 7:02pm.*

II. Variance Notification – Waterfront Park Bathrooms

*The Board was notified that the City intends to apply for a variance from the State Plumbing Board and was in need of a letter saying the BOH was notified. The Board approved the letter without edits to be sent to City Officials stating the Board was notified.*

III. Animal Inspector Nominations

a. Kayla Provencher

b. Jeevan Kowalski

*Motion to re-nominate Kayla Provencher and Jeevan Kowalski as the Animal Inspectors for the City of Newburyport made by Dr. Merabi. Seconded by Dr. Slocum. Motion passes 3-0.*

IV. Body Art Regulation Discussion

*Two questions that came up with body art. First was around lip pigmentation by Lauren Kantak at Mirror Mirror. Was not clearly defined in the regulation so wanted board approval before taking the class and spending the money. Dr. Merabi was asking what exactly the procedure is since it seemed like it might be microblading. Lauren explained that this is a different technique and is done using a machine, not the typical blade like microblading. The machine deposits pigment and doesn't go deeper than the first layer. This is considered semi-permanent. The school that teaches the class also offered to answer any questions that the Board may have. If Lauren is able to drop off paperwork and information on the procedure, that can be dropped off at the Health Department with Michael to then be distributed to the Board. Dr. Blair invited Lauren back to our next meeting. The second piece of body art that is up for discussion is around having an apprenticeship added and substituting of a course for the Anatomy and Physiology*

*requirement. Leah Lynch of Beautique joined to ask for Board assistance in getting a new body art practitioner up and running without the two years experience. Dr. Blair explained that since the regulation passed there had not been any issues brought to the Board and whether things were done without Board approval, that is not known to them. Leah had asked a question pertaining to whether the Catherine Hines curriculum would suffice for the A&P requirement. Leah stated that she had an email from former director, Frank, accepting this for someone else. Dr. Blair stated that if a past director approved something, it carries through, unless something would overturn it.*

V. COVID-19 Update

*22 cases so far in March, 0 deaths. Much better than January and February. 1.55% positivity rate in the city.*

*93% with one dose, 83% fully vaccinated and 43% with booster. Dr. Slocum asked for the delta on booster doses from the last time a number was pulled. Michael explained that it had only gone up 1%.*

VI. Choke-Saver Program Proposal

*Currently a requirement for any restaurant that has 24 or more seats to have one person on staff at all time who is trained in manual choke-saver procedures. The closest class is in Salem and is \$36, so to get more people trained, Pam (PHN Nurse) is licensed to teach and has designed a course. The proposed fees are \$20 and \$25.*

*Motion to approve by Dr. Slocum. Seconded by Dr. Merabi. Motion passes 3-0.*

VII. General Department Update

*On Monday, our new Health Director, Laura Vlasuk will begin in the office.*

VIII. Other Matters

- a. Blood Drive – Tuesday, May 3, 2022

IX. Future Meetings

- a. April 21, 2022 7:00pm

X. Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn at 7:33pm by Dr. Slocum. Seconded by Dr. Merabi. Motion passes 3-0*