

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

August 1, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: Dr, Barbara Beck called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM

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PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Beck, Dr. John Straus, Dr. Carl Brownsberger Gerard Cody and Steven Ward

Minute Review: The Board reviewed the minutes of June 20, 2007. Dr Straus made a motion to approve the minutes of June 20, 2007. All were in favor.

Old/New Business: Steven Ward updated the Board concerning several matters of interest. The Board reviewed documents pertaining to New Ginza Restaurant and discussed the logistics of the BU Biolab hearing scheduled for September 18, 2007. It was the consensus of the Board that this would be an informational presentation and that the Board would support proposed legislation from Representative Fox's office. Mr. Cody gave an update on the eCEMP.

New Ginza Restaurant: Mr. Johnny Tong, owner of New Ginza Restaurant, represented New Ginza Restaurant (NGR) and he was accompanied by hi consultant Mr. Samuel Wong of MD Consulting. Gerard Cody stated the this hearing is a continuation of the June 20, 2007 administrative hearing. Mr. Cody gave an overview of the status of the hearing and reminded the Board that Mr. Tong and Mr. Wong were required to be before the Board at the September meeting at which time additional inspection reports would be discussed.

Mr. Cody spoke to the content of the most recent inspection report and Mr. Wong stated that sanitary change/practice has been impeded by the main cook. Mr. Wong stated it's often hard to have an established cook change their sanitary practices. The Board reiterated the need for NGR to comply with the variance and the state sanitary code. Mr. Cody presented the amended Sushi HACCP variance to the Board for their consideration. After much discussion, Dr. Straus made the following motion: "The Board of Health hereby accepts the amended HACCP plan as submitted. This Sushi HACCP plan will supplant the existing Sushi HACCP plan variance. **Note:** the amended Sushi HACCP plan will use pH test strips in place of the pH meter. The plan also changes the pH of the rice from 4.6 to 4.3 to

accommodate the test strips. New Ginza is hereby ordered to appear at the September 18, 2007 Board of Health meeting in order to ensure compliance with the order letter dated May 14, 2007."

Victor's Diner, 214 North Beacon Street: Mr. Cody stated that this matter would be continued until the September 18, 2007 meeting since the plan review is not completed.

Animal Control Ordinance Review: Mr. Robert Hall, representing the Watertown Commission on Disability, gave a presentation on proposed amendments to Watertown's Animal Control Ordinance. Mr. Hall spoke to the difficulty that those with disabilities experience when having to leash their dogs while walking their pet or service dog. Mr. Hall and Town Councilor Jonathan Hecht proposed language that would, in their opinion, bring Watertown's existing Animal Control Ordinance into compliance with Americans with Disability Act. Steven Ward and Police Sergeant Jeffery Pugliese stated their concerns with being unable to enforce the provisions of Section 4.2 "Restraining of Dogs – Exceptions for Persons with Disabilities:" as presented. Of particular concerns were the issues of control over a dog and the ability to ask the dog owner questions.

It was the consensus of the Board that since they do not have regulatory oversight concerning the proposed amendments of the ordinance that they would take this matter under advisement. **Note:** Dr. Straus left the meeting at the conclusion of the Animal Control Ordinance Review agenda item.

Health Officer Appointment: Under MGL Chapter 111 § 30 Mr. Cody offered a list of interns as agents to the Board of Health for the purpose conducting assignments/work on behalf of the town. Dr. Brownsberger made a motion that the following interns be accepted as agents to the Board: Abigail Pedican, Michael Murphy, Maya Nadimpalli, Sara Turek, Edith N. Synnefakis, Colleen C. Coyne and Katie Rennie. Dr. Beck stepped down as chair to second the motion. All in favor.

Next Meeting: September 18, 2007

Meeting Adjourned: 10:28 PM