

Board of Health
Tuesday, December 4, 2012
Penn Room

Members Attending: J. Dethoff, J. Wong

Others Attending: R. Natale, S. Katzenmoyer, T. Coleman

Call to Order

Dr. Wong called the Board of Health meeting to order at 4:20pm.

Dr. Wong welcomed Harry Stephan to the meeting. Mr. Stephan is interested in serving on the Board representing the citizen at large position.

Dr. Dethoff stated that he has recruited Robert Hospidor who would also represent the citizen at large position. Mr. Hospidor was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Note: application forms were mailed to Mr. Stephan and Mr. Hospidor.

Health Office Report

Mr. Natale stated that there is no report as there is no Health Officer.

Dr. Dethoff questioned if the Health Officer would be replaced or outsourced. Mr. Natale stated that he hopes that the Health Officer will be hired shortly. He noted that handicapped parking space applications need to be processed. He stated that the Health Officer processes approximately 30 per month. He described the process and questioned if Dr. Dethoff or Dr. Wong would be interested in volunteering in the interim.

Dr. Wong stated that he would be available to volunteer beginning in February if there was still a need. Mr. Natale thanked Dr. Wong and stated that he will let him know if it is necessary. He stated that a clerk will make all the appointments.

Tattoo Parlor Ordinance Update

Dr. Dethoff explained that Reading began with the Allentown regulations and have been making adjustments.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the need for a temporary prohibition on donating blood after receiving a tattoo. Mr. Stephan expressed the belief that the time frame was one year. Dr. Wong noted the need to allow time to pass to determine if an infection was transmitted.

Dr. Dethoff stated that the regulations call for the completion of forms. He questioned if the City would supply these forms to the tattoo establishments. Mr. Natale stated that he visited Allentown and observed inspections. He stated that the City would supply the forms and that he could get template forms from Allentown.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the type of division needed between the tattoo establishment and any living quarters. Mr. Natale stated that a division or door which can be closed is necessary. He explained

that a curtain or open doorway does not qualify. The tattoo application should not take place in the living quarters.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the need for a back flow preventer on the sink. Mr. Natale explained the function of the back flow preventer and stated that all commercial uses are required to have them.

Dr. Dethoff questioned why petroleum jelly is the only item allowed to be applied to the surface of the skin in the area of the tattoo. Dr. Wong stated that if skin irritation occurs the person knows that it's the tattoo and not the application of a gel or cream that they may have an allergic reaction to.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the need to describe the type of steel used for piercings. Mr. Natale stated that all artists should understand the type of steel needed. Dr. Wong stated that strict sterility requirements must be met.

Dr. Dethoff stated that overall he supports the regulations. He questioned if Mr. Natale had a good enough relationship with operators that he could request they review the regulations and comment. Mr. Natale stated that he does and suggested that they be invited to attend a future meeting to comment before the Board.

The tattoo operators will be invited to attend the February 5 meeting.

Note: Ms. Katzenmoyer will work with Mr. Coleman to have the regulations in Ordinance form for the January meeting.

Membership Update

There was a discussion of the number of new members needed to attain a quorum. The categories of membership were also discussed.

Dr. Dethoff questioned the meaning of a certified or licensed Environmental Health professional. Mr. Coleman will research this and report back to the Board.

There was discussion about two people being interested in the citizen at large position. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that one would be the alternate citizen at large position but that both would be welcome to attend meetings as it would assist to reach a quorum.

Other

Dr. Dethoff stated that when he spoke with Dr. Kimball about past issues reviewed by the Board, he was disturbed that a limitation was not placed on the number of animals per household. Ms. Katzenmoyer described the problems encountered when addressing this issue in the past. She stated that she will review the information again and discuss it with Mr. Coleman.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 8 at 4 pm in the Penn Room.

*Respectfully submitted
Shelly Katzenmoyer
Deputy City Clerk*