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DIRECTOR of HEALTH
Russell Melmed, MPH

Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough, & Portland

**BOARD OF HEALTH
SPECIAL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING
June 25, 2019 1:00pm
East Haddam Municipal Office Complex 1 Plains Road, Moodus, CT.**

Present: Andrew Tierney Stan Soby Emmett Lyman
Rosemary Coyle Mike Maniscalco Kate Morris
Peter Hughes (arrived 1:09)

Staff: Russell Melmed

Public: Susan Pagnano (Susan's Slaon), Sue Kauffman (A Perfect Image), Sabirna Romania (Escapes Hair Salon), Amber Klusek (Escapes Hair Salon), Cindy Klaja (Escapes Hair Salon), Debra Goodwin (Debbie's Cuts & Styles), Tommy Nguyeh (KAP Nails), Lisa Yopp (Persnipity Salon), Crandall Yopp (Persnipity Salon)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Tierney called this Special Meeting/Public Hearing to order at 1:00pm.

**2. Public Hearing
~ Proposed Chatham Health District Cosmetology Regulation**

Mr. Melmed stated that the regulations have been slightly changed based on feedback received at the informational meeting held with salon owners. Mr. Melmed stated that upon implementing the regulations, the first inspection will be scheduled and more educational than regulatory. Mr. Melmed stated that State of Connecticut passed a law approximately ten years ago requiring directors of health to inspect salons. Chatham Health District is one of the last district/health departments to comply.

The following is a list of questions/concerns and Mr. Melmed responses:

- Fees. The annual fee will be \$100 and will be reviewed along with all fees annually.
- How often will inspections take place and will they take place the same time every year? The law states that inspections shall take place at least annually. Inspections will be built into the sanitarians schedules throughout the year.
- How will violations or noncompliance be handled? Violations will not constitute closure. There will be an allowance for violations without failing an inspection. If an establishment does fail and inspection, notice will be given and a re-inspection will be scheduled.
- Will there be fines? There are fines for operating an establishment without a license and fines for failures after the second re-inspect.
- Will establishments be closed for non-compliance with structural requirements within the regulations (floorings, sinks, etc.) and what happens when these items need to be updated and the landlord is not willing to do it? The Director of Health will work with the establishments to bring them into compliance through a corrective action plan and/or a plan review application if needed.

-If a salon owner rents out a chair and the renter is noncompliant with the regulations, who is responsible. The salon license is issued to the salon owner and ultimately responsible for the operations of the establishment.

-Is it ok to have cloth chairs in a reception area? The reception area is not considered a "work station" therefore it is allowable.

Mr. Melmed stated that since these regulations are new to salon owners, and also new to the District, the initial inspections will be educational and to familiarize ourselves with the establishments and processes. There will be no punitive action taken unless the inspector identifies a process in which a high degree of likelihood that disease or infection can be spread.

Mr. Melmed stated that he did receive one written comment from an individual concerned about the time and date of the public hearing. Mr. Melmed asked if they wanted their comments read into the record and no response was received.

Brief discussion was held regarding hand washing and sanitizing. Mr. Melmed stated that operating your work station in sanitary way, sanitizing and cleaning after each client, you would be compliant. Hands must be washed when soiled, after eating, using the restroom. The use of phones and requiring handwashing/hand sanitizer will be looked into.

-Are the salons going to have to show sanitizing procedures for everything? They may just have to verbally walk through sanitation procedures for some things and demonstrate for some.

-Can clients bring in food to share during the holidays/special events? Yes, clients can bring food. However, in the event that the salon provides food for the public, a food permit license may be required.

-Can stylist have water at their work stations? No food or beverage should be in the stylist work station. Water can be stored at the desk in the reception area.

Members of the Board recognized that there may be uniqueness within the processes of salons and suggested that during the initial inspections these activities be documented and reviewed. Suggestion was also made to develop "Frequently Ask Questions" list based on questions asked during this public hearing.

Applications will be sent out in the mail and inspections will be scheduled following the application being received.

3. Adjournment

Following no further comments from the public motion was made by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Ms. Morris, to close the Public Hearing. Vote was unanimous in favor. Public Hearing closed at 2:01pm.