

**Meeting Notes from the Regular Meeting of the Peabody Board of Health,  
July 21, 2022**

In Attendance: Chairperson Thomas J. Durkin III; Health Department Director Sharon Cameron;  
Board member Julia Fleet, D.O. remotely via Zoom. (Board member Anthony Carli -absent)  
The meeting was held in the City Hall Lower- Level Conference Room at 4:30 p.m.  
with public access also available remotely Via Zoom.

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**Subject:** Meeting called to order

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin called meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and read the meeting notice.

## HEARINGS

**Subject:** 4:30 pm - Hearing re: Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Alexandra Hebert. Vote anticipated to approve or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin opened the hearing at 4:30 and read the hearing notice. He asked who was present to speak on this matter and Alexandra Hebert was in attendance. She also had her dog in attendance and said that he also comes to work with her and said that he has his service animal license. Mr. Durkin invited Ms. Hebert to tell a little about herself and why she was applying for this permit. Ms. Hebert explained that she has been doing tattooing for almost 11 years and apprenticed for three years before that. She told that she was originally from Philadelphia but has been in Massachusetts for two years and had been licensed in Salem and is now looking to get licensed in Peabody. Mr. Durkin asked if all of the paperwork was in order and Ms. Cameron replied that it is. Mr. Durkin asked how many tattoo artists work there at 119R Foster St., and Ms. Hebert replied that there are four and two permanent makeup artists who come in one day a week or so. Mr. Durkin asked if she works long hours, and Ms. Hebert replied that many of her clients fly in to see her so she will numb them up and work on one client for ten hours. Dr. Fleet asked how she numbs them. Ms. Hebert replied that she uses a medical grade lidocaine 5% solution that is sprayed on and sits for an hour before she begins, only tattoo artists can buy it. She added that her friend recently got involved in the making of it, and Ms. Cameron asked what she meant by her friend makes it. Ms. Hebert replied that he partnered with the medical company to do the branding and packaging, it is all medical grade obtained from a medical supply company and is not homemade product. Dr. Fleet asked if she had any problems in any of the former places she has done tattooing. Ms. Hebert replied never. Ms. Cameron asked about if she uses solely disposable instruments. Ms. Hebert replied yes, everything is disposable. Ms. Cameron asked her to tell about her process for using inks to prevent cross contamination. Ms. Hebert replied that she sets up her inks before she starts tattooing, doesn't do anything without gloves, all bottles have expiration dates and are sealed and kept away from everything else, she pours ink into cups and if she runs out she will use another cup so no splashing onto a bottle and then she will wipe down the bottles as well. Any ink left in cups is discarded and not returned to bottle. Ms. Cameron asked if there is anything she uses repeatedly that is not disposable. Ms. Hebert replied that only thing she uses repetitively is the machine itself and she disinfects it when she is done. Ms. Cameron said that she missed the discussion before the meeting started about the dog that was present. Ms. Hebert explained that he is a psychiatric service dog and offered to show his registration. Ms. Cameron said that she would be interested in hearing about the procedures she will use so that the dog does not interfere with her tattooing process. Ms. Hebert replied that Inspector John Yale has seen his area when he came to the shop, that it is a small cubicle and it is covered and isolated from everyone else and there is a humidifier and an air purifier nearby and he basically just sleeps there all day. She said that she works like three feet away from him so he

can see her but he cannot interfere with her tattooing. She said that he does not shed and gets groomed every three weeks so people can hold him and will get no hair on them. Ms. Cameron asked how she will incorporate feeding or bathroom breaks for the dog if she is tattooing a client. Ms. Hebert replied that he is on four heart medications so he only eats in the morning before they come into work and not again until they return home. She said that for bathroom breaks she will usually walk him before the client comes in and again during the client's bathroom break or stretch break, adding that she will set a timer for three or four hours to make sure clients take a stretch break and will use that time to take him outside to an area they have outside. Ms. Cameron asked if she then goes through cleaning procedures when she returns from walking him. Ms. Hebert said yes, and she has grooming wipes and wipes his feet as well before washing and sanitizing her hands. Mr. Durkin said that this is a public hearing and asked if anyone present or virtually would like to speak on this matter and asked those online to use the raise hand feature to speak. No one responded. Ms. Cameron added that she had contacted the Salem Board of Health and they said that they have no records of any complaints or disciplinary actions on this licensee. Mr. Durkin said that since there are no further comments that he will close the hearing. He asked if the Board has any further discussion on the matter. Dr. Fleet said that she would like to make a motion to approve this license. Mr. Durkin explained that there are only two board members present as their third member is absent today so no second is required and said that he would call for a vote. Both Board members voted to grant this permit to perform body tattooing.

**Subject:** 4:35 - Hearing re: Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Katherine Ventura. Vote anticipated to approve or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin opened the hearing at 4:40 and read the hearing notice.. He asked who was present to speak on this matter and Ms. Ventura was present and came forward. Ms. Ventura said that she has a written statement she had prepared to read from, and introduced her client, Gabriella Vasquez, who was also present. Ms. Ventura introduced herself as Kat Ventura and said that she is the owner of Las Venturas Tattoo. She said that her tattooing knowledge and experience puts beautiful lasting artwork onto skin as well as long term solutions to anyone with tattoo regret and an opportunity for clients to get the tattoo of their dreams in a clean and sanitary environment. She said that she plans to be a value to the city's revenue with the diverse clientele she will be bringing in and a value to the industry. She said that she has over five years tattoo experience and has worked in several tattoo shops. She said that her tattoo career has taught her to prioritize her client's health, to do work and provide service beyond their standards, and for people to have a complete sense of comfort when they enter the studio, and in turn the relationship she builds with her clientele will be a wonderful addition to the city. Mr. Durkin asked where she plans to be. Ms. Ventura replied on Bourbon Street. Mr. Durkin asked her to tell about her shop, and asked if she expects to work long hours and to see a lot of people. Ms. Ventura replied that she is a solo artist so it is going to be by appointment only and she will probably only see one to two clients per day. She said that she had guidelines for how she would like to run her shop, for instance, she will not allow parties. She said that she understands that people may want a friend for support and will allow one friend to accompany them but no groups and there are not going to be people just walking in since she is a solo artist. She said that she will have the door locked with a bell to let her know if someone is hoping to enter. She said that she has tattooing equipment and everything covered, including her ipad so that she can remove and recover and sterilize. She said that her main concern is no cross contamination and said she had worked for four years at a hospital so it came very natural to her because of that. Ms. Cameron asked her to tell the board about her sanitation procedures. Ms. Ventura replied that all of her materials are disposable so she does not need an autoclave. She said that she has covering for non-disposable things like her power supply and ipad, and she will use

plastic wrap in case she needs to touch something like to access photos or the power supply so the plastic can get thrown away. She also wipes everything down with sanitizing agents. She explained that she keep her inks and utensils on a shelf on the wall so there is no splash back, and she will pour them there and wears gloves when she handles and pours her inks, everything is packaged and opened in front of clients, a opposed to using a tub of Vaseline as others do she uses separate individual packets of ointment and opens it in front of clients for them to see that everything was opened for them. Unused ink is not poured back in the bottle. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone has any questions, and none responded. Mr. Durkin said that she lists a couple of places she has worked before, the Black Pearl Studio, and asked where that is located. Ms. Ventura replied that it is in Alabama. Mr. Durkin asked about Fish Pig Ink and Ms. Ventura replied that it is also in Alabama and was the last place she worked before she moved back home right at the start of the pandemic. He said that the last place was in Salem Ink. He asked if she had ever had any problems places she had worked. Ms. Ventura replied that she had never had any problems at the studios while she worked there, but said that she wanted to be honest and told that she had issues with Salem Ink after she had left when she informed them that she would be opening her own studio, adding that you can imagine what that might have been about, but said that other than that she has had no issues at any shop. Mr. Durkin asked if she was implying it might have been a competition issue and she said yes. Ms. Cameron asked what were the nature of the problems that they raised about her. Ms. Ventura replied that it was anything you can think of that would hurt her reputation, like that she had stolen from the shop, that she had harassed clientele, stuff like that. She said that her clients have stood by her side and have been championing for her to get her own studio and to get away from the environment she had been in. She said that she also has other ex -coworkers who have said that they went through the same thing and added that this shop has a reputation for this. Ms. Cameron said that she had contacted the Salem Board of Health as she does for all of these applications and they did have in their file a complaint from her former employer that included these complaints. She added that she did contact the shop owner as well and he expressed several of the things you had stated and also that there had been allegations of sexual harassment with clients, complaints about higher- than -expected rates of infection, the removal of confidential information from the shop including people's medical information and people's drivers licenses, and charging people for services to your own personal account and not the shops. He did express willingness to provide documentation but since she had only spoken with him today there had been no opportunity to get that documentation yet. He had also said that one of the complainants had been someone who had been placed there in an internship through their college and that person informed their school of sexual harassment and the school conducted an investigation, but the shop owner did not have any of that documentation. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Ventura what she wanted to say in response to this. Ms. Ventura replied that this shop has a reputation for doing this. She said that the college student who was a female, thought she had gotten her fired and filed a complaint in retaliation. She explained that she had been speaking with the student about the different tattoos that they both had and each showed their tattoos but Ms. Ventura said that she has one behind her knee and said if she wanted to see if she would have to take off her pants, and if she didn't want to see it that was fine and the student said yes she wanted to see it, it was ok. It wasn't until after the student was fired- after another artist said he heard her talking about doing tattoos out of her dorm room- that she had made the claim against Ms. Ventura. Because she had been the last one to speak with her she assumed it was Ms. Ventura who got her fired, so she reported the incident. Ms. Ventura said that she went to the school and told what had happened and said that they agreed that was what the student had said had happened too, and they said that this was not sexual harassment and informed the student that she can't make these kinds of accusations against people. Ms. Ventura said that there was no investigation of any of these things. She had never heard of any of these other things until

after she left employment. She said that she has also contacted two attorneys about these accusations and they both told her that if they did try to go forward with accusations that she has the right to pursue her legal rights against them. She said again that she never heard a complaint while she was there, was never told any of these things, nor had a single complaint from the owners while she worked there. After she said she was leaving they made a statement that they were going to do anything they could to stop her. She said that was why she had also included a referral from a colleague who she had worked with who saw how she worked. She said that she just wants to open up her shop.

Mr. Durkin said that it appears that they might not have all of the necessary information in this case and it might be wise to defer this one more month as they may not have heard all of the information. Dr. Fleet agreed and asked if the shop owner had filed any police reports and Ms. Cameron replied that he said that he had not and to his knowledge no one else had filed a police report. Ms. Ventura said that this shop is very vindictive, she was the last employee to leave there and before that they lost every single person who worked for them in seven months. Also the employee who quit before she did had received a police escort to pick up his stuff because he didn't feel safe going back alone. She added that they should also talk to her coworker who had witnessed this vindictive behavior and had told her that when they said they had received emailed complaints about an artist she had asked to see them but he had nothing to back them up, but he said that he hopes that it's damaging.

Dr. Fleet explained that the Board takes issues like sexual harassment and increased infection rate seriously, so just so we do our due diligence, we have to investigate and revisit this next month. Mr. Durkin said that they are sorry to delay action on the permit application but they do have an obligation to follow up on these things. He suggested that they continue the hearing until next month and if anyone who wishes to speak in favor or opposition they can do so next month. He asked if Dr. Fleet would like to make a motion. Dr. Fleet made a motion to continue the hearing until next month. Mr. Durkin called a vote and both voted in favor of continuing the hearing. Ms. Cameron indicated that there was someone who wishes to speak. Mr. Durkin invited the party to speak. Gabriella introduced herself and said that she had been a client of Kat's for quite some years now, and has never had a complaint on any of her tattoos. Kat has always been very thorough. She said that she had a design for a cover up tattoo and she executed it completely as she had requested and met all of her expectations, everything was clean and hygienic and she healed up properly. Gabriella said that she knows the incident they are referring to and it has to do with a forehead tattoo but she would speak about that at the next hearing because it would fall on deaf ears. She said it is very sad that this is happening to her friend. Mr. Durkin again closed the hearing and said this will be continued until next month.

**Subject:** 4:35 pm - Hearing re: Application for Permit to Operate a Body Tattooing Establishment at 6 Bourbon St. #7 submitted by Katherine Ventura. Vote anticipated to approve or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Continued until next month (see item above)

**Subject:** 4:40 - Hearing re: Application for Permit to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Kristina Zakirova. Vote anticipated to approve or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin opened the hearing at 5:01 and read the hearing notice. He asked who was present to speak on this matter and Ms. Zakirova came forward. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Cameron to remind him of the status of the application. Ms. Cameron reminded that Ms. Zakirova had come before the Board last month apply for a permit to operate a body tattooing establishment, and we had approved it, but she had asked to hold off on her permit to perform tattooing. Ms. Zakirova said that

it was because she had not been aware that she would need shots and it would take over two weeks to get them so she had asked to wait. Mr. Durkin asked for the address of the shop and Ms. Zakirova replied 6 Essex Center Drive. He asked her to tell more about it. She said it is a medical building, there is a corridor with different suites. They are going to have their own suite with four rooms. They are going to have a medical assistant who is an esthetician doing her procedures and will have a medical director. As or now she for now is doing permanent makeup on faces but next year will be applying to do areolas because they get a lot of cancer patients for reconstruction. Ms. Cameron said that she is seeking a permit just for permanent makeup and not tattoos. Ms. Zakirova replied that is correct. We work on a different level of skin and don't go too deep, it's hard to tell looks very natural. It looks so natural that even right after the procedure it's hard to tell something was done. Mr. Durkin said does it get swollen or red? Ms. Zakirova replied no, except lips. But swelling goes down in twenty minutes. Mr. Durkin said that he had asked some questions about the studio but we are here for your licensing as opposed the shop, and asked if all of the paperwork is in order. Ms. Cameron replied that it is. Mr. Durkin asked Dr. Fleet if she had any questions. Dr. Fleet replied that she did not. Mr. Durkin asked if there was anyone present or on zoom who wished to speak in favor or against and said to use raise your hand on zoom. No replies were received. He asked Ms. Cameron if she has any questions. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Zakirova to tell about her sanitation procedures and tools and how she will prevent cross contamination. Ms. Zakirova replied that everything she uses is a one time use and she only uses a very small amount of ink in permanent makeup tattooing, like 10 drops, so before the procedure they put on gloves they pour the ink and have it in a disposable container. Everything is disposable, except the machine which they have a cover on, they use a sharps container to dispose of their needles with the building's sharps. Ms. Cameron said that she had contacted the Marblehead Board of Health where Ms. Zakirova had worked prior to this and they reported that they had received no complaints and had no disciplinary actions on record for her. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing and asked for a motion. Dr. Fleet made a motion to approve the permit to perform body tattooing-permanent makeup. Mr. Durkin asked if any discussion. None was put forth. A vote was taken and both board members voted to grant the permit. Ms. Zakirova asked if it would be possible to have the permit mailed to her home address since they would be closing on the new location soon. Ms. Zakirova asked if she wanted to apply to do the areolas would she need another permit. Ms. Cameron replied that it would not be a new permit but that they would amend the existing permit to include the new language. Ms. Zakirova said that she would have to provide proof of schooling on that technique as well and Ms. Cameron replied yes. Ms. Zakirova thanked the board and said that it was a pleasure doing business with them.

**Subject:** 4:45 pm – Hearing re: Application for Permit to Keep Certain Animals at 7 Lynn St. Ct. submitted by Amanda McNeil and Damon Griffin. Vote anticipated to approve or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin opened the hearing at 5:10 and read the hearing notice. He asked who was present to speak on this matter and Ms. McNeil and Mr. Griffin came forward. Ms. McNeil said that during Covid they turned their yard into a beautiful garden and called to try to get a permit to have hens, and could not get through, but got the hens anyway. Recently a neighbor had been mad at them for a different reason and complained about the hens. Mr. Durkin said that we do sometimes receive applications subsequent to someone complaining. Ms. Cameron said to give a little context that there had been some complaints in the neighborhood about rodent activity which prompted the inspector to visit one of the neighbors in the area who did have chickens and that neighbor identified several of his neighbors who had chickens so John Yale contacted the parties and told them that they would have to get rid of the chickens or apply for a permit. Mr. Durkin said that the Board had concluded that there is a nexus between rodents and chicken coops when they are not properly cared

for so we are always concerned about that. He asked Ms. McNeil to tell about how they will prevent rodents. Ms. McNeil replied that John Yale had been out and had a full tour and seen the coop and the entire property and in his report said that everything is very clean. She said that the food is stored in metal containers stacked on top of cinder blocks. The chicken coop is completely covered in hardware cloth, dug in two feet around the coop and put in landscape rocks so nothing can get in. She said that their kids love the chickens, that they are their pets, they are very well taken care of. She said that they used DE and Baking soda when cleaning to prevent pests. She said that they have A1 exterminators scheduled to come out to do an inspection as well. Each week they use three to six inches of pine shavings, and it can last a month or more but we change it weekly. Dr. Fleet asked how many chickens they have right now. Ms. McNeil replied ten. She said that it is the right amount for their big lot. Mr. Durkin asked where the coop is on the lot. Ms. McNeil showed in her application a drawing of the yard and the coop. She pointed out the cleaning steps they use, all safe organic products and said that the feed is all organic too. Mr. Durkin asked if there are any further questions for the applicant. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if there was anyone on zoom or present who wished to speak. No response was received. Dr. Fleet made a motion to approve the permit for ten hens. Ms. Cameron said that this could be granted conditionally pending the report from A1 exterminators and on the condition that if anything is found that it is addressed. A vote was taken and both members voted to grant the permit. Ms. McNeil asked if she should forward the exterminator report to the board, and Ms. Cameron said to send it to John Yale.

## **BUSINESS**

**Subject:** Approval of minutes of June 30, 2022 - Vote anticipated to approve or amend minutes.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin asked if anyone had any comments or corrections on the draft minutes. None were put forth. He commented that he sees lots of notes but these are extremely thorough and well done. Dr. Fleet made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to accept the minutes from June 30, 2022.

**Subject:** Update on COVID-19 response actions

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron told that she had given the most current statistics and said that the state has reduced their frequency of updating their data to weekly. She said that case counts are starting to go back up, thankfully not to the levels we were seeing before, and fortunately the severity of cases has not had a significantly negative impact on hospital capacity. She said that they are still tracking and doing case investigations and contact tracing and thankfully at this stage most people know what the isolation and quarantine requirements are. They expect that in the fall with school getting back in session that they will see numbers go back up again. She said that they are not seeing a lot of progress in terms of vaccination rates, not really getting new people vaccinated except those newly eligible, like the really young ones, and we are seeing a little movement there, but mostly they are seeing people who were already vaccinated getting boosters. She said they continue to plug away at it, had a clinic earlier today at the Council on Aging, and will continue to do small targeted clinics to try to get more people. Mr. Durkin notes that they were also doing a blood pressure clinic, and Ms. Cameron said that was correct. Dr. Fleet asked if Ms. Cameron thought that people were waiting to get updated boosters in the Fall? Ms. Cameron said that she thinks that some people are, but said that she doesn't think that is the biggest issue. Mr. Durkin said he doesn't know if it is just human nature or fatigue but he doesn't see masks in the grocery stores or in the workplace and wonders if it isn't prudent to wear masks with numbers going up. Ms. Cameron told that she had attended a concert last week and said that 75% of people there were wearing masks even though it wasn't mandated. Mr. Durkin said that where he parks for his work shares space with scientists and medical professionals and they are wearing masks so he also wears a mask in the elevators there in deference

to them. Ms. Cameron said that they are stocking up on masks for the fall but do not see that they would return to a mask mandate but we can make recommendations, we will see a certain percentage of people return to mask wearing if numbers increase.

### **Environmental Updates**

**Subject:** Rousselot update

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that there had been a couple of recent complaints. Some of the complaints were related to the trucks that leave the facility with the sludge, which is strong odor but not long lasting. She said that there have been no equipment failures that had made some prior summers terrible. She said that they had one complaint this week. She also said that she had reached out to them this week so that the weather conditions were on their radar and that they were increasing their monitoring and they were already aware and doing those things. She said that she continues to inform DEP when there are complaints and DEP continues to monitor them to make sure that they are meeting the milestones of the administrative consent order that they had been placed under.

**Subject:** Northeast Nurseries update

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that there were a few odor complaints at NE Nursery this month, and Inspector Yale investigated and determined that they were significant enough and warranted tickets being issued.

**Subject:** Winona Water Treatment Plant update

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that we got notified that the water treatment plant was able to procure fluoride and had reintroduced it to the water and will have enough to go through August and expect another delivery and think that they may have resolved this issue. They also notified the state oral health unit. The state does twice a month conference calls with local health departments and this issue was one of the topics of discussion since this has been affecting so many communities. The state said that they see this as a temporary situation and that they don't see the need for local boards of health to do anything or for dentists to make any changes in treatments and do not expect local health departments to recommend any alternative treatments.

**Subject:** Rodent control update

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron reported that the "SMART" reverse defibrillation boxes are in place and are working, with 175 captures and with 55 devices at 7 locations getting regular hits. She said that they also have responses for their request for quotes for the fertility control project for rodents which they hope to put in place as well. She said that while 175 kills was good, it is not nearly enough by itself to control the rodent population so we need to use both methods. She said we have had lots of rodent complaints including in areas where we don't traditionally see rodent complaints.

**Subject:** Code enforcement updates

**Discussion:** Reviewed. Ms. Cameron said that she wanted to point out that they had been expecting a large number of appeals to the tobacco penalties put in place, especially with the larger state-mandated penalties. She said that all have chosen not to challenge them, and she said that she hopes that business owners have not come to feel that this is just a cost of doing business and continue to understand the importance of complying with the restrictions. Gardner Park Variety has elected to serve their 30 day suspension from August 1st, Town Variety has elected to serve their 7 day

suspension beginning next week. All but one, Main Street Smoke Shop, have paid their fines, adding that it does concern her that they haven't paid their fine because they are an adult only establishment so they have special privileges and they have a poor compliance history but they do have a new owner so hopefully you will see a turnaround there. She said that she had sent out a notice following the last meeting to Richdale Convenience store on Washington Street notifying them that we have denied their application for renewal of their tobacco sales permit. They have requested a hearing. She has consulted the city solicitor and he has advised that we should grant them a hearing. Under state regulations, 105 CMR 665, it says that you do not have the ability to sell tobacco if you have failed to pay all outstanding fines and penalties, so the law is pretty clear, but the owner of the store has asked for a hearing on this denial but also would like to enter into a payment plan for the \$2000 fine and would like to have the board reconsider the 7 day suspension of his permit but he has already been heard on those matters but he will be on the next month's agenda. She has made a referral to the liquor licensing board since many of the tobacco permit holders also hold liquor licenses and should have better procedures in place to verify age, so she hopes they reinforce this message with their license holders regarding tightening up procedures for verification of age for restricted products.

**Subject:** Nuisances: 50 Lowell St.; 12 St. Lo Dr.; 1 Fitz Rd.

**Discussion:** reviewed

**Subject:** Tobacco: 44 Margin St.; referral to Licensing Board

**Discussion:** reviewed

**Subject:** Animals: 44 N. Central St.; 29 Lynn St.

**Discussion:** reviewed. Ms. Cameron said that you may see these cases come before you in hearings next month.

**Subject:** Permitting updates

**Discussion:** reviewed

**Subject:** List of permits issued in June 2022

**Discussion:** reviewed

**Subject:** Public Health Nursing updates

**Discussion:** reviewed

**Subject:** June 2022 surveillance report

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron explained that the Public Health Nurse had been on vacation so she had just gotten the report and sent it to the board today, but said that there was nothing that stood out this month. Mr. Durkin thanked her and said that he would review that later today.

## Grant Updates

**Subject:** Medical transportation regional grant

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron said that the City was part of an application to expand access to medical transportation in the region. Salem was the host of this grant. The reason is that there are people who don't qualify for Council on Aging busses but still need help accessing medical care. Mr. Durkin asked how people would avail themselves of these services. Ms. Cameron said that the details haven't been worked out yet, they haven't even met on this yet as it has just been awarded but that she expects that the facilities involved would advertise its availability and that perhaps there would be vouchers but more information would follow. Mr. Durkin and Dr. Fleet both said that this was great news.

**Subject:** Comprehensive School Health Services/Workforce grant

**Discussion:** Department had received a grant to support school nursing, had been hoping to bring in more school nurses but it has proven impossible to hire more nurses so they used it to increase administrative support. They increased two of the existing part time administrative staff to temporary full time administrators to support clinics at the high school and the middle school and provide additional support to the nurses. The other thing is that they will be increasing our contract with community- based mental health agency, in past have had two providers provide mental health counseling to students in the 8 elementary schools two days a week at each school and they hope to increase to four providers next year because the needs for behavioral health are so great. The agency is in the process of trying to hire the additional clinicians now.

**Subject:** Contact tracing grant

**Discussion:** Ms. Cameron explained that we are in the second and final year of this grant. This is a regional grant and we are the host community. They are going to let us to carry over funds that we were unable to spend this year and that will allow us to fund a full time care resource coordinator where we now have a half time care resource coordinator serving the seven communities. The grant also pays for three contact tracers, a supervisor and a half time epidemiologist. Case counts are a little lower so they are having them work on some other tracing like TB, but once school reopens we expect they will be spending all of their time on Covid contact tracing.

**Subject:** Correspondence: From SESD re: 39 Wallis St.; From GEI re: 55 Russell St.

**Discussion:** reviewed

Dr. Fleet made the motion to adjourn, a vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to adjourn at 5:39 p.m.

Next meeting date: Thursday, August 18, 2022 4:30 pm.      Adjournment:      5:39 p.m.