

**Kalamazoo County**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**January 9, 2008**

Present: Francis Bell, Bryan Bowne, Kathleen Buckham, Patrick Krause, Mark Miller, Carolyn Rutland, Kyle Smith and Jim Rutherford

Environmental Health: Deb Cardiff, Vern Johnson, Dan O'Donoghue, Diane Hindbaugh, Carolyn Hobbs Kreiger and Heather Nicholas

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
1. Citizen Comments	None		
2. Review/Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2007	Minutes could not approved because there was not a quorum.	Approve at next meeting on February 13 <sup>th</sup> .	
3. Plug-In-Partners – Mark Miller	Fran said he thinks that this is a step in the right direction and he supports the idea of going to the board. His biggest concern in regards to alternative fuels and alternative systems is that we still don't have a battery system that's adequate to provide what he would call common sense, every day use. Mark said there have been some major advances in just the last month. Mark said the objective of this resolution is to demonstrate to the auto industry that there is a critical mass of support. Mark said that he didn't think that this was going to drag on to this extent – he thought that we could quickly write something that the board could pass. Deb said the reason it has dragged on is because there hasn't been a quorum for three meetings and because of scheduling conflicts. Mark said he didn't want to spend much more time on this and asked if anyone could address what the concerns were that were raised last month. Deb said that there were people that thought there were some sensationalism words that really didn't need to be part of it. Unfortunately some of the people that brought this up at the last meeting are not in attendance today. Mark requested to withdraw the resolution.	Resolution withdrawn	
4. Body Art Presentation – Jack Mosher	Jack Mosier is owner of Body Armour Tattoo in Kalamazoo. Jack said that he has read over the Michigan Law. It seems to him that it states that anyone who passes a normal inspection could get a license. It wouldn't really mean anything to him unless there was an actual inspection done involving an inspector who is knowledgeable about tattooing procedures. He has been working in Vegas they have one of the strictest health laws in the country. You have to take a blood borne pathogens CPR class and a written test to get a license. Michigan up until this point has had no health laws pertaining to tattooing at all. Deb said that Senate Bill 593 was passed into law on December 13, 2007 and at that time it was her understanding that that law gave an option for local health departments to perform the inspections. That is not how the law is written – our attorney has reviewed it and this Bill requires a local health department to perform the necessary	.	Will be presenting to EHAC and the Committee of the Whole in February

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	<p>inspection of body art facilities, supply that inspection to the State of Michigan and that would allow a body art facility to obtain a license from the state. Deb said that we are in the process of writing rules specifically for Kalamazoo County to meet the requirements of 593. Jack said he thinks this would be a benefit if the health inspector makes an inspection and actually knows about tattooing, not just come in and issue a piece of paper without inspecting anything. He would recommend and be in support of artist certification. Deb said that we, Kalamazoo County, would have to assess a fee to recoup a percentage of our costs, which will be another cost to the business owner. In February, Deb will be presenting to the Committee of the Whole to get their blessing that we are moving forward; the EH Bureau would like to put together a work group of at least three or four active body artist owners in Kalamazoo County to develop our rules. Deb asked if Jack would be interested in being on this work group and he said he would. Fran asked if the local code could address things more stringently than the state code and Deb replied that it could. Discussion took place about licensing being at the artist level and not at the owner level like nurses, cosmetologists, etc. Deb said these are things we will be looking at in the work group. Deb said that it is our goal to have sound, intelligent, practical rules that make sense to protect people's health. Jack talked about how most tattoo shops have what they call "apprenticeships". These are people they hire that are learning how to tattoo. Dan talked about having a certification process for an apprenticeship. Jack said that this would be a great idea and it would also be another way to bring in revenue. Pat asked Jack if he would support the need for a local regulation that is far more comprehensible than just what the state is proposing. Jack replied that he thinks it's a great idea as long as it is done in an intelligent way. Most people are going to go where they feel safe and it would probably weed out a lot of the bad apples. Jim R. said he agrees with the concept of licensing the artist and it would be ideal if the state would oversee this so that every county had to do the same. He thinks that if Kalamazoo County gets on the front of this there will be the opportunity for us to provide the service within other county's that elect not to do this. Fran suggested that Jack consider being a part of the work group because he would bring a great deal to the group. Deb said that after presenting to the Board of Commissioner in February she envisions that we will begin putting the work group together in March. Jack was dismissed from the meeting.</p> <p>Deb said that Dan O'Donoghue, Vern and herself will be the staff involved with the rule writing in the work group. They are preparing a PowerPoint presentation for EHAC and the BOC Committee of the whole. Deb would like approximately three EHAC members to be a part of the group. Fran and Carolyn have already expressed an interest.</p>		

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	<p>Deb said that she misspoke when she said cartilage piercing to the ear would be regulated. In Senate Bill 593 it states that any piercing to the ear is exempt.</p>		
<p>5. By-Law Editing – Deb</p>	<p>Since there is not a quorum, it was agreed that it would be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Members received the edited version of the By-Law in their packets for this meeting- please review and be ready to discuss at next meeting.</p>	
<p>6. Member Comments</p>	<p>Mark said he had been thinking about CAFO fields where manure has been spread and how it may be dumping into nearby streams with all of the snow and rain we have had lately. He questioned if our surface water program ever did monitoring under certain circumstances such as these. Deb said our surface water-monitoring program designates streams, lakes and creeks. Some we monitor weekly, monthly and twice a month. We identified two water bodies in mid 2007; Bear creek and Axtell creek; one urban area and one rural area where we have tried to do more sampling. We have tried to watch for excessive rainfall events so we can do expanded water testing. Deb said that all of our surface water sampling is on our web site.</p>		<p>Deb will talk with Jeff, our Surface Water Specialist, regarding this issue.</p>