



Central Office: 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109 Phone (860) 721-2822 Fax (860) 721-2823  
Berlin: 240 Kensington Road, Berlin, CT 06037 Phone (860) 828-7017 Fax (860) 828-9248  
Newington: 131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT 06111 Phone (860) 665-8586 Fax (860) 665-8533  
Rocky Hill: 761 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 Phone (860) 258-2770 Fax (860) 258-2767  

---

www.ccthd.org

## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

### **PROCEEDINGS**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SALON ORDINANCE**

**MARCH 19, 2008**

**WETHERSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Wethersfield, CT**

A public hearing on the salon ordinance as proposed by the Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD) was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 by the Central Connecticut Health District Board of Health. The hearing was convened at 5:30 p.m. in Room S-1 of the Wethersfield Community Center, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Judith Sartucci of the CCHD Board of Health (Rocky Hill representative) chaired the hearing.

**Ms. Sartucci introduced the other members of the Board who were present to receive testimony, and continued to introduce each who arrived after the hearing began:**

Dianne Doot (Wethersfield)

Andrea Urciuoli (Newington)

Carolyn Wysocki (Berlin)

Paul Hutcheon, M.P.H., R.S. Director of Health and Board Secretary

Nancy Klatt, Chair (Wethersfield) - arrived at 5:40 p.m.

Lynn Gavelek (Berlin) - arrived at 5:50 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing was to review the Salon Ordinance that is proposed by the Central Connecticut Health District for implementation in its four member towns. Ms. Sartucci entered into the record a copy of the Public Hearing Notice that was sent out to the Town Clerks in each member town and to salon owners/operator. See copy attached.

Ms. Sartucci provided instructions to the audience for providing testimony and asked that written testimony be submitted if available. She advised those present that the hearing was being recorded for transcription purposes. She then invited members of the public to come forward to address the Board.

Approximately 16 members of the public were present.

**Ms. Eileen Scobal of Newington and owner of a business on the Berlin Turnpike in Wethersfield** said she doesn't think it is fair for salons to have to pay such a high rate when neighboring businesses don't have to pay anything. Paul Hutcheon said currently the Town of Wethersfield is the only town in the District that charges a licensing fee to salons and the fee is about half of what is currently being proposed.

**Mr. Peter Win, owner of the nail salon in the Wal-Mart in Newington,** introduced himself and said he

just came to listen but had no comments at this time.

**Mr. Joe Mazzoccoli, owner of Modern Hairstyles in Newington,** asked if he would have to change his dark rugs in favor of a lighter colored rug required by the regulations. Mr. Hutcheon said his office would look at this on a case-by-case basis and see how the rugs are installed and maintained. The ordinance is more concerned with wall-to-wall, non-removable carpeting. Mr. Mazzoccoli asked what a “credo blade” is. Mr. Hutcheon replied that this is a blade used primarily on feet for calluses or corns. Mr. Mazzoccoli asked about operators not being able to eat or drink while providing services. Mr. Hutcheon said operators can have lunch or a snack in a designated area but they can’t have open or exposed food while they are with a customer.

**Ms. Violette Franco, owner of Violet’s Hair Design on the Silas Deane Highway,** stated that the cost for licensing was high, particularly for a single operator salon.

Mr. Hutcheon asked if any of the salon owners present felt that any part of the ordinance was out of line or unreasonable. He said if the ordinance were to pass it would take effect in all four towns in the Health District. His office would hire a health inspector to do the inspections.

**Ms. Katherine Freeman,** who works for the City of Hartford, attended the hearing and said that the City of Hartford Health Department is going through the same licensing process, including looking for someone to inspect the properties. The City is trying to work with other municipalities and the State Department of Public Health to see if the State will fund the health inspector positions.

Mr. Mazzoccoli said the ordinance requires putting blades in drawers and he wanted to know if they needed to put a blade in a drawer every time they took it out and how often they needed to sanitize blades. He felt that some areas of the ordinance were not clear as to what was expected of them. Mr. Hutcheon replied that blades must be stored in drawers when not in use. He said the intent is to sanitize equipment used in between customers.

There were questions and a discussion about the amount of the new licensing fees.

Mr. Hutcheon said when creating the ordinance the Health District invited business representatives to provide input and the Health District made a lot of adjustments to the proposed ordinance based on the comments received. One request was made that the Health District chose not to include was that salon owners be allowed to launder their linens at home.

**Mr. Charles Negrelli** asked how individuals licensed by the State Dept. of Public Health would be affected by this new ordinance. Mr. Hutcheon said that his health inspectors would be looking for practitioners’ Connecticut licenses when they make salon inspections. The State Health Department licenses individual practitioners, but not the salons themselves. The Central Connecticut Health District under this new ordinance would be setting the standards for and licensing the salons. Mr. Negrelli asked if the State had separate rules. Mr. Hutcheon said the State Dept. of Public Health regulations apply to the license of the individual, not the salon. He said the Health District would work with the local salon businesses to identify violations or conditions that need improvement and then work with the owners and operators to bring the conditions up to the standards of the ordinance. The State Dept. of Public Health has no involvement in this ordinance at all. Mr. Negrelli asked that if an individual operator did not have a license, would they be reported to the State. Paul said they would and that this is currently done. Mr. Negrelli asked about nail salons. Mr. Hutcheon said in Connecticut there is no practitioner licensure requirement from the State to do nails or pedicures.

**Mr. Heath Long of Modern Hair Styles in Newington** asked if spray sanitizers were acceptable for sanitizing blades. Mr. Hutcheon said he believes sprays are effective as sanitizers and that would be taken into consideration. Mr. Long suggested adding that to the ordinance.

**Ms. Carolyn Geswoldi of Windsor** asked if each town would have their own inspector. Mr. Hutcheon said he planned to hire one person to do the inspections for the four towns in the Health District.

Ms. Scobal raised a final concern about the State Dept. of Public Health not doing inspections across the state, as was once done, and the need for this to be done locally under each health department's separate ordinances.

Ms. Sartucci asked if any of the Board members had questions. Dianne Doot asked for further clarification on how many salons had only one operator.

Ms. Sartucci asked if the Health District had received any letters or written testimony to be entered into the record. Mr. Hutcheon said that none had been received to date for the Public Hearing.

Ms. Sartucci advised those present that copies of tonight's proceedings could be obtained from the Health District. The Board is scheduled to act on the proposed salon ordinance at its next meeting and members of the public were invited to attend.

There being no further comment from the public or from the Board, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hutcheon, M.P.H., R.S.  
Director of Health