

## **Safety Health & Service Committee Meeting**

**Monday, June 28, 2004**

The Safety Health and Service Committee met in council chambers at 6:30 P.M. to discuss a request by Health Commissioner Joan Robis for an update in the present city ordinance dealing with tatoos and body piercing. Present were committee members Darrin Lautenschleger alternate George Houston and Chairman Sam Hitchcock. Guests present were Councilwoman Sandy Cox, Mayor Ron Brodzinski, Councilman Bill Ellwood, Treasurer Mike Taylor, Commissioner Joan Robis, Environmentalist Jim Ulis and the media. Also present by Hitchcock's request were owners or representatives of the two tatoos parlors: Skip Sonnevill, Owner of Double Eagle Tatoos Parlor along with Matthew White, piercer and Jesseca Haney, custom tatoos artist. Also Virginia Seever, co-owner of Krazy Horse Tatoos Parlor along with Marvin Taylor, tatoos artist.

The meeting began by Hitchcock giving the floor to Joan Robis who began by explaining the the present tatoos ordinance was very incomplete and outdated due to additional regulations on a state level. She then gave numerous definitions of different procedures that are in practice in some tatoos parlors such as "branding", "cutting", "braiding" and other procedures which damage or otherwise scar skin tissue. Robis pointed out that nine of these procedures would be banned under the suggested update and the only procedures approved would be basic tatoos and body piercing.

She also explained that tatoos was now prohibited for anyone under the age of eighteen and the only body piercing permitted for anyone under eighteen would be ear piercing with the permission of a parent or guardian. Robis also outlined numerous requirements of the parlors regarding cleanliness and sterilization of equipment. A penalty section was also mentioned by Hitchcock for any violations of the proposed ordinance.

Owners of both establishments voiced approval of the new ordinance and vowed compliance. After more brief discussion, Darrin Lautenschleger made a motion to recommend passage of the ordinance to full council. George Houston seconded and all three voted in favor of the motion.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam R. Hitchcock, Chairman  
SAFETY, HEALTH & SERVICE COMMITTEE  
CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA