

CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

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**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
February 6, 2014
CATA Training Room
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930**

Board members present: Chairperson: Dr. Richard Sagall; Vice-Chairperson: Robert Harris; Frederick Cowan, Joe Rosa, and Claudia Schweitzer. Present from the Health Department: Public Health Director: Noreen Burke; Public Health Nurse: Lianne Cook; Manager of Environmental Health: Max Schenk

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no "Public Oral Communication".

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2014 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented by Noreen Burke, Lianne Cook, and Max Schenk

1 BILLION RISING FOR JUSTICE- Ms. Cook provided board members with a flyer for the "1 Billion Rising for Justice" public awareness event. The event will take place at the Cape Ann Savings Bank Park on February 14, 2014 at 12:30 to pledge to stop violence against women and girls.

HIGH RISK TASK FORCE- Ms. Cook stated that a high risk task force subcommittee is forming around safe needle disposal in the community. The subcommittee will consist of members of the Police Department, emergency medical services, the Health Department, and other non-profit providers.

INFLUENZA- Ms. Cook reported that there have been no reports of influenza to the State in the past three weeks for the community of Gloucester and for the State of Massachusetts. She stated that in December she was getting 3-5 reports a week.

HOUSING ENFORCEMENTS- Mr. Schenk reported that one of the Board of Health's regulations is for the inspection of rental units in the city. He stated that the Health Department sent out 60 enforcement letters with 4 units each. He stated that those 240 units that will need to be inspected over the next few months as well as the one, two, and three unit range which will be done on a quarterly basis.

HOARDING ISSUES- Mr. Schenk reported that there was a hoarding issue on Wheeler Street that was discussed at the last meeting and he is meeting with Senior Care and the property owners to discuss re-entry to the property.

TATTOO PARLOR INSPECTIONS- Mr. Schenk thanked Ms. Cook for her assistance in inspecting the two tattoo parlors in the city. He stated that they consistently getting reports for tattoo parties, which are a huge risk and are asking the public to refrain from attending tattoo parties as they are not regulated by the Health Department.

STAFFING UPDATES- Ms. Burke reported that Joanne Christopher was offered and accepted the Principle Clerk position for the Health Department and will start full time February 10, 2014. She stated that Jenna Melvin will be the new Grants Accountant Specialist and will be starting on February 18, 2014.

SANITARIAN EXAM- Ms. Burke reported that Erin Kirchner, Karin Carroll, and she are taking a registered sanitarian review course and exam this week in Lexington, Massachusetts.

STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON- Ms. Burke reported that the staff appreciation luncheon will be on March 13th, at 12:30 p.m.

MAYOR'S WEEKLY LETTER- Ms. Burke gave board members the Mayor's weekly letter which mentioned the Health Department.

SHINGLES VACCINE- Ms. Burke reported that she submitted a request for more Shingles vaccine.

GRANTS- Ms. Burke reported that they have successfully resubmitted the Drug Free Community Continuation Grant. She stated that this is the fourth year of the five year grant.

DENTAL CENTER- Ms. Burke reported that they are still recovering from the flood damage at the Dental Center caused by an apartment located above the center. She stated that there is approximately \$5,000 - 7,000 in damage. She stated that are pursuing two insurance claims, one through the State and one through the City. She stated that she has been working with Chairperson Sagall to create a planning process for the Dental Center.

ARBORVIRUS- Ms. Burke reported that the State has already contacted the Health Department regarding arborvirus and they should start to think about the risks of the mosquito related diseases.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA- Ms. Burke reported that the State issued 20 medical marijuana dispensary licenses. She stated that Haverhill and Salem were the two cities that obtained licenses for Essex County.

STUDENT SURVEY- Ms. Burke stated that she would like to have a follow-up meeting with Superintendent Saffier regarding the student survey.

EMERGENCY DISPENSING SITE DRILL- Ms. Burke thanked Chairperson Sagall and Ms. Schweitzer for taking part in the emergency dispensing site communications drill. She stated that this Thursday MDPH and CDC will be scoring and reviewing their emergency dispensing site plan. She thanked Karin Carroll for her assistance with the plan. Ms. Schweitzer stated that the City needs an Emergency Preparedness Director.

ELECTRONIC DATABASE- Ms. Burke thanked the Pond Road Department Heads', Bill Sanborn, Tom Daniel, and James Pope for meeting weekly. She stated that this week Mr. Sanborn set up a presentation for Viewpoint, an electronic database that includes a compliant module.

NEW BUSINESS

52 YE OLDE COUNTY ROAD (MAP 232, LOT 10) –

John Judd, Gateway Consulting

Request for Variance- tight tank to be situated within 100' of a coastal bank.

John Judd, engineer for Gateway Consulting appeared before the board. He gave a brief overview of the request for a tight tank at 52 Ye Olde Way.

Mr. Cowan stated that at its meeting of January 7, 2014 the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Subcommittee voted 3 for and 0 opposed to recommend to the full Board of Health, approval of the request for variance for a tight tank to be situated within 100' of a coastal bank.

Mr. Harris asked why the owner would not be able to use a garbage disposal with the use of a grinder pump and a tight tank. *Mr. Judd* responded that there should not be an issue with a garbage disposal and the grinder pump.

Chairperson Sagall asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak for or in opposition of the variances requested. There was no one.

MOTION by Mr. Harris that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the request to install a tight tank for 52 Ye Olde County Way. **Seconded** by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.**

54 YE OLDE COUNTY ROAD (MAP 232, LOT 9) –

John Judd, Gateway Consulting

Request for Variance- tight tank to be situated within 100' of a coastal bank;
Request for Variance- tight tank to be situated within 10' of a foundation; Request for Variance- tight tank to be situated within 50' of a private well

John Judd, engineer for Gateway Consulting appeared before the board. He gave a brief overview of the request for a tight tank at 54 Ye Olde Way.

Mr. Cowan stated that at its meeting of January 7, 2014 the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Subcommittee voted 3 for and 0 opposed to recommend to the full Board of Health, approval of the variance requests for a tight tank to be situated within 100' of a coastal bank; for a tight tank to be situated within 10' of a foundation; for a tight tank to be situated within 50' of a private well.

Chairperson Sagall asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak for or in opposition of the variances requested. There was no one.

~~*Mr. Rosa* asked if there were any concerns raised by the abutters with private wells. *Mr. Judd* responded that there were no concerns from abutters.~~

MOTION by Mr. Harris that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the requests to install a tight tank as written on the agenda for 54 Ye Olde County Way. **Seconded** by Ms. Schweitzer. **CARRIED.**

BOARD DISCUSSION RE: GLOUCESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S AMENDMENT TO THEIR "USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS POLICY" –

Chairperson Sagall stated that he received an email and spoke to Kathy Clancy regarding the School Committee's amendment to their "Use of Tobacco Products on School Property or at School Sponsored Events Policy". The board agreed to send an email of appreciation of their efforts and support the school Committee's amendment and let them know there is no conflict with the Board of Health's regulations.

367 CONCORD STREET (MAP 239, LOT 3) –

Isaac Rowe, Mill River Consulting

Request for Variance - reduce the separation distance from inlet and outlet tees to high groundwater;
Request for Variance - reduce the requirement of two deep observation holes per disposal area
Request for Variance - reduce the setback distance from the ProSTEP, Waterloo, and septic tank to the freshwater resource area
Request for Variance - reduce the setback distance from the SAS to the freshwater resource area
Request for Variance - reduce the separation distance from the SAS to the private drinking water supply wells

Isaac Rowe, engineer for Mill River Consulting appeared before the board. He gave a brief overview of the variances requested for 367 Concord Street.

Mr. Cowan stated that at its meeting of February 6, 2014 the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Subcommittee voted 2 for and 0 opposed to recommend to the full Board of Health, approval of the variance requests to reduce the separation distance from inlet and outlet tees to high groundwater; to reduce the requirement of two deep observation holes per disposal area; to reduce the setback distance from the ProSTEP, Waterloo, and septic tank to the freshwater resource area; to reduce the setback distance from the SAS to the freshwater resource area; and to reduce the separation distance from the SAS to the private drinking water supply wells.

Chairperson Sagall asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak for or in opposition of the variances requested. There was no one.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the request for variances as written on the agenda for 367 Concord Street. **Seconded** by Ms. Schweitzer. **CARRIED.**

13 CEDARWOOD ROAD (MAP 232, LOT 30) –

Enforcement Order Compliance – Requirement to Upgrade Failed System

Mr. Schenk stated that the owners of 13 Cedarwood Road were provided an enforcement letter and they responded that they wanted to come before the board. The owner could not obtain a ride to the meeting, so she was told she could appear before the Septic Subcommittee meeting and she did not appear. He stated that at the Septic Subcommittee meeting the board discussed the possibility that the system is in failure.

Mr. Cowan stated that at its meeting of February 3, 2014 the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Subcommittee voted 2 for and 0 opposed to recommend to the full Board of Health that an enforcement letter be sent to the property owners of 13 Cedarwood Road requiring that a Title 5 inspection be performed for the treatment system serving the property and that this occur no later than 30-days upon receipt of the enforcement letter.

Ms. Schweitzer asked if there were any funds available to offer transportation to residents who cannot obtain a ride to Pond Road. Ms. Burke responded that she will explore the issue.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health accept the report of the Septic Review Subcommittee as it relates to 13 Cedarwood Road. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

OLD BUSINESS

661 WESTERN AVENUE (MAP 199, LOT 24) -

Update re: failure to comply with septic upgrade order dated 11/6/2013

Mr. Schenk stated that he did a site visit at 661 Western Avenue and spoke to the owner's son regarding the failed system. He stated that the Ms. Kirchner contacted the State and the State has a receivership program where the state takes over and move them through the court system.

Mr. Schenk stated that he will contact the State and explore the receivership program.

ANNUAL REPORT- *Mr. Rosa provided board members with a draft of the annual report. Board members discussed various edits to the annual report and decided to review the final draft at the next meeting. The board thanked Mr. Rosa for compiling the document.*

LONG RANGE PLANNING- *Chairperson Sagall stated that the Board of Health needs to start thinking about long term planning. Ms. Burke stated that the dental center is one area that needs to have long term planning done.*

Ms. Cook stated that she would like to participate in the long range planning process. She stated that she would like to look at health education around chronic self-care management and elder health.

The board agreed to add a second working meeting when needed to discuss long range planning in more detail.

The board agreed to hold a working meeting on March 20, 2014 at 6:15.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

NAME BADGES- *Mr. Cowan gave board members an example of name badges. Board members agreed that the name badges should include last names and titles. The board thanked Mr. Cowan.*

OPEN DOOR- *Mr. Cowan stated that he has been working with Julie LaFontaine on providing a second meal at the senior center. He stated that it will be locally prepared meals twice a week. He stated that they are also providing dinner at the Addison Gilbert Hospital once a month with a health or safety presentation after. Ms. Burke stated that the Open Door is going in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a special permit and a variance needed to build an addition next Thursday and requested that the Board of Health write a letter of support. The board agreed to write a letter of support for the Open Door request for expansion.*

STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON- The board agreed to hold a staff appreciation luncheon on March 13th, 12:30 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS- *Ms. Burke stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on March 6th, 2014.*

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED - 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Dr. Richard Sagall, Chairperson