

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
May 1, 2014
CATA Training Room
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930**

14 JUN -9 AM 8:23
CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

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; Manager of Environmental Health: Max Schenk; and Sanitarian: Erin Kirchner.

The board welcomed Karin Carroll, Coordinator of the North Shore Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no "Public Oral Communication".

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes of the meeting of April 3, 2014 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED**. Mr. Rosa and Mr. Cowan **abstained**.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented by Noreen Burke and Max Schenk

Ms. Burke stated that the Public Health Nurse was attending a state-wide public health conference and highlighted some items for Ms. Cook.

RECREATIONAL CAMPS- *Ms. Burke* reported Ms. Cook has been collaborating with Mr. Schenk regarding the regulating the annual recreational camps in Gloucester.

WELLNESS SURVEY- *Ms. Burke* reported that progress is being made on the newly established Wellness Workplace Wellness Committee for city employees led by Steve Winslow. She stated that an online survey is being developed to get ideas from employees on how to make the workplace healthier.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Domestic Violence Coalition is actively following progress on the emerging domestic violence legislation. She stated that April is sexual assault awareness month.

MHOA- *Ms. Burke* reported that Ms. Cook attended the Massachusetts Health Board Association's (MHOA) camp inspection training and did training sessions on Christian's law.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE- *Ms. Burke* reported that Ms. Cook has been paying attention to e-cigarettes, measles, tick borne diseases, and viral hepatitis. She stated that Ms. Cook attend a program that the Health Gloucester Collaborative presented on opiate abuse and the use of nasal Narcan. She stated that Ms. Cook has had seven investigations of communicable diseases in the last month. She stated that Ms. Cook has been coordinating community health promotion event topics.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BATHING BEACHES (STATE SANITARY CODE, CH VII)- *Ms. Schenk* reported that there are proposed changes to water quality testing at the beaches. He gave board members an overview of the proposed changes to the water quality testing. He stated that the testing criterion is not changing, just the procedure of the closure of the beaches.

MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICTS- *Mr. Schenk* stated that a letter was drafted by the Health Department inviting the offices of Ann-Margaret Ferrante and Bruce Tarr to attend the June meeting.

STAFFING UPDATE- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Mass in Motion grant is ending on September 30, 2014. She stated that Steve Winslow has been working for the city under this grant for the last 5 years. She stated that there are now fifty communities competing for the grant and they are going to look into joining with other communities to re-apply for the grant because Gloucester alone does not meet the new population requirements to apply solely for the grant. The Mass in Motion grant assisted in the building of Newell Stadium, the Harbor Walk, as well as other programs.

OPIATE REGIONAL - *Ms. Burke* reported Joan Whitney is working on the Opiate Regional Assessment report. She stated that they had a great amount of medications brought to the Medication Disposal Day.

DENTAL CENTER- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Dental Center was supposed to get new computers today. She stated that Chairperson Sagall is working with her on the planning for the Dental Center.

BUDGET- *Ms. Burke* reported that there has been a tightening of purchase order procedures to help balance the budget due to the amount of snow removal costs this winter.

PET WASTE AT BEACHES- *Ms. Burke* reported she and Mr. Schenk attended a city council meeting regarding the pet waste at the beaches issue. *Ms. Burke* stated that she received a letter from City Council asking for the Board of Health's input and opinion regarding health issues stemming from dog waste on the beaches.

ANNUAL REPORT- *Ms. Burke* stated that they are going to get a press release out regarding the annual report. She stated that the Mayor noticed an error on the last page and they have corrected that error.

NORTH SHORE HEALTH PROJECT- *Ms. Burke* reported the North Shore Health Project is honoring Sefatia Romeo-Theken as the Public Health Person of the Year on May 29, 2014 at the Gloucester House.

OPEN DOOR- *Ms. Burke* reported the Open Door Empty Bowl event is on May 8, 2014 at 4 p.m.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS- *Ms. Burke* reported the Zoning Board of Appeals has their annual hearing on May 8, 2014 on making the additional beds at the shelter permanent. She invited board members to attend and will draft a letter to board in favor of the additional beds.

ADDISON GILBERT HOSPITAL CITIZENS FUND- *Ms. Burke* stated that Bob Ryan approached her regarding the Addison Gilbert Hospital Citizens Fund. She stated that this group is trying to fundraise to make more surgery options available for residents. She stated that the event will be on May 18, 2014.

JIM DUGGAN- *Ms. Burke* invited board members to a going-away party for Jim Duggan on May 2, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS BRIEFING -

Karin Carroll, MPH, of the North Shore Cape Ann Emergency Preparedness Coalition (MDPH Region 3D) appeared before the board. She gave board members an overview of the coalition. She stated that there are fifteen communities represented in the coalition. She stated that she works with the health directors of those fifteen communities. She stated that their goal was originally to help communities to prepare to dispense medications if they needed to in an emergency, but they have since expanded their goals to environmental disasters. She stated they are now looking at functional needs and traditional aspects as well. She stated that the coalition provides emergency preparedness trainings, presentations, drills, planning, and resources. She stated that the FET program which funds the grant is winding down and they have one more year from July for the grant. She stated that the coalition is always looking for volunteers to assist them. She shared the Gloucester Emergency Dispensing Site plan with board members.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BATHING BEACHES (STATE SANITARY CODE, CH. VII) -

See "Monthly Reports"

50 ATLANTIC STREET (MAP 243, LOT 6) -

Property owner: Carolina Phillbrook
Representative: Isaac Rowe, Mill River Consulting

- Requests for variances to State Environmental Code (Title 5) for septic system upgrade:
- to reduce the separation distance from inlet and outlet tees to high groundwater;
 - to reduce the setback distance from the tanks to the property line
 - to reduce the setback distance from the tanks to the slab foundation;
 - to reduce the setback distance from septic tank to wetland resource area;
 - to reduce the setback distance soil absorption system to wetland resource area;
 - to reduce the setback distance from the soil absorption system to habitable space

Isaac Rowe, engineer for Mill River Consulting appeared before the board. He gave a brief overview of the variances requested for 50 Atlantic Street. He stated that they did get approval from the Conservation Committee for the project.

Ms. Kirchner stated that the upgrade is a result of an enforcement letter for failure sent out in 2003. She stated that the system is a significant upgrade to what currently exists.

Mr. Rosa stated thanked the Health Department for their persistence with enforcement issues.

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.

Scott Brown, of 46 Atlantic Street appeared before the board. He asked about the retainer wall that was going around the leaching field. *Mr. Rowe* responded that the retaining wall around the leaching field will be a dry-laid stone border wall.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the request for variances as written on the agenda for 50 Atlantic Street. **Seconded** by Ms. Schweitzer. **CARRIED.**

45 CRAFTS ROAD (MAP 233, LOT 18) –

Property owner: Kristen Maley

To discuss failure to comply with septic upgrade order dated November 25, 2013

Ms. Kirchner stated 45 Crafts Road is an enforcement issue from 2010. She stated that they met with the property owner at the Septic Sub-Committee meeting. She stated that the owner acknowledged that the system was in failure and they are doing a water test on May 19, 2014 and then they will discuss deadlines. She stated that she is still looking into the Septic Loan Program regarding eligibility of primary residences.

10 EDGEWOOD ROAD (MAP 218, LOT 58) –

Property owner: Michael McCormack

To discuss failure to comply with septic upgrade order dated November 7, 2013

Ms. Kirchner gave an overview of the property owner's failure to comply at 10 Edgewood Road. She stated that this is an enforcement issue from 2002-2003. She stated that the property owner stated that the break out was due to a broken pipe and that will be evaluated.

Mr. Cowan submitted minutes from the Septic Review Subcommittee meetings of April 3, 2014 and April 28, 2014 to enter into the record.

OLD BUSINESS

TOBACCO 21 DISCUSSION – *Chairperson Sagall* stated that some communities are raising the age to buy tobacco products to 21. *Ms. Burke* stated that there are 16 towns that have raised the age of buying tobacco products. *Mr. Rose* stated that this issue needs to be addressed at the State level. *Mr. Harris* agreed. *Dr. Sagall* stated that the board should be in favor of this even if they do not have the enforcement capabilities.

The board discussed the issue as well as enforcement issues, and agreed to discuss the issue again at the next meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health table the "Tobacco 21 Discussion" until the next meeting. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD, BRIEFING UPDATES –

Children's Dental Center Planning - *Chairperson Sagall* stated that he met with Mr. Burke and they came up with some plans and had a discussion as to who they would like to ask to join the subcommittee. *Ms. Burke* stated that she would like to get some type of road map for the next five years for the dental center.

Performance of Mandated Enforcement Services – *Mr. Schenk* stated that he and Ms. Cook had a preliminary meeting regarding "Performance of Mandated Enforcement Services".

Local Public Health Accreditation Discussion – *Ms. Schweitzer* stated that they are going to meet in June regarding the "Local Public Health Accreditation" discussion.

13 CEDARWOOD ROAD (MAP 232, LOT 30) –

Property owners: Robert and Patricia Smith

Update on Enforcement Order Compliance – Requirement to Upgrade Failed System

Ms. Kirchner stated that she sent a letter out after the last meeting to the property owners of 13 Cedarwood Road giving them a series of deadlines. She stated that they have until May 16, 2014 to have a perc test done and if they fail to comply they will move on to Housing Court.

661 WESTERN AVENUE (MAP 199, LOT 24) –

Property Owner: Peter and Laverne Saputo

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

Ms. Kirchner stated that she was playing phone tag with the property owner of 661 Western Avenue. She stated that she sent a letter in April requesting that she come before the board at this meeting and she has not complied. She stated that she will proceed with the Housing Court regarding the owner's failure to comply.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

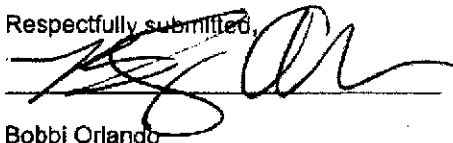
SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA/FAKE POT- *Mr. Cowan stated that he is concerned with the article in the newspaper regarding "fake pot". He stated that his concern is that they are implying that it is fake marijuana. He stated that he is disturbed that there may be city sponsored initiatives involved with the issue. He encouraged the Health Department to follow the lead of Chief Campanello and not get involved. Mr. Rosa stated that the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative they had discussed it and thought that the City Council should make an ordinance, not the Health Department. Mr. Cowan stated that calling synthetic marijuana "fake pot" is misleading.*

NAME TAGS- *Mr. Cowan showed board members the final proof of the name tag for comment. The board thanked Mr. Cowan for his efforts in getting name tags for the Health Department.*

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS- *Ms. Burke stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on June 5, 2014.*

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Page 6
Minutes of the Board of Health
May 1, 2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Sagall', written over a horizontal line.

Richard Sagall, Chairperson