

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
June 4, 2015
City Hall Annex
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930**

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

This meeting is being recorded by audio in accordance with State Open Meeting Law.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no "Public Oral Communication".

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Rosa to approve the Gloucester Board of Health and City Council minutes of the joint meeting of May 2, 2015 as written. **Seconded by Mr. Cowan. CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mr. Cowan to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes of the meeting of May 7, 2015 as written. **Seconded by Mr. Harris. CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mr. Harris to approve the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Review Subcommittee minutes of the meeting of June 1, 2015 as written. **Seconded by Mr. Cowan. CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

12 SUMNER STREET (MAP 236, LOT 31) –

Property owned by Heidi Fialho, represented by Isaac Rowe of Mill River Consulting

To discuss potential variances from local regulations, including reducing the required setback from the septic tank to the coastal resource area from 100' to 60'; to reduce the required setback from the Waterloo Biofilter to the coastal resource area from 100' to 68'; and to reduce the required setback from the soil absorption system to the coastal resource area from 200' to 97' (primary) and 70' (reserve).

Isaac Rowe, of Mill River Consulting appeared before the board on behalf of the owner. Mr. Rowe gave a brief overview of the potential variances from local regulations for 12 Sumner Street.

John Bevilacqua of 11 Sumner Street appeared before the board. He stated that he owns the land beside and behind 12 Sumner Street. He stated that he has concerns with the size of the system on the property, the fill material that is on the property, and the system itself. He is also concerned where the excess water will go.

Isaac Rowe responded to the abutters concerns and addressed all of his concerns. Mr. Bevilacqua thanked Mr. Rowe for addressing his concerns.

Ms. Kirchner stated that the site plan does meets all State regulations for new construction and the

Waterloo Biofilter system was originally approved for remedial use, but has since been approved by the State for new construction.

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

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health grant the variances requested as numerated in the agenda for 12 Sumner Street. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

GLOUCESTER YOUTH COUNCIL 84 MINI-GRANT SURVEY REPORT –

Kelly Hurd of 707 Washington Street and *Caroline Enos* of 7 Trask Street appeared before the board representing the Gloucester Youth Council. *Ms. Hurd* and *Ms. Enos* presented the results of the 84 Mini-Grant Survey Report 2015. *Ms. Hurd* stated that 384 students participated in the survey.

The board thanked the Gloucester Youth Council for their presentation and their hard work. *Ms. Burke* also thanked Jordan Caress, with Social Capital, Inc. for attending the meeting.

DOGS IN RESTAURANTS: CAPE ANN MARINA MILE MARKER RESTAURANT –

To discuss potential variances from local regulations, including reducing the required setback from the septic tank to the coastal resource

Tobin Dominick, of 43 Ye Olde County Road and owner of the Cape Ann Marina/Mile Marker appeared before the board. She stated that they have had a demand from their patrons about bringing dogs to their resort. She stated that Salem and Newburyport has variances to allow dogs in restaurants. She stated they drafted a waiver that dog owners would need to sign if they were to bring their dogs into the restaurant.

Joe Loiacono of 6 Goodman Road, General Manager of Mile Marker appeared before the board. He stated that people from other towns that want to go to a dog friendly restaurant will drive right through Gloucester and go to a different town that allows dogs.

Mr. Rosa asked if they were aware that the Salem regulations do not allow dogs to pass through any inside areas. *Ms. Dominick* responded that dogs would not have to pass through an inside area if they were allowed and they could gain access to the deck through a different route.

Rosalie Nicastro Food Inspector for the Gloucester Health Department appeared before the board. She stated that she uses the Massachusetts food code and the FDA food code to help with her inspections. She stated that the food code states that live animals may not be allowed on the premise of a food establishment, except for service dogs, aquariums, and shellfish displays. She stated that she has received many complaints about this issue already. She read letters from residents in opposition of allowing dogs in restaurant. She stated that dog waste could be on the bottom of dogs and people that have allergies could be put at risk. She stated that she is also concerned about dogs being up-to-date with their shots and wondered who would be liable if a dog bit someone in a restaurant. She stated that dog feces can carry ringworm, whipworm, hookworm, tape worm, salmonella, and many more. She asked what would happen if a dog relieved itself in the restaurant, who would be responsible to clean it up. She stated that she is extremely busy during the summer and she does not have time to police dogs in restaurants. She stated that this will open up a whole can of worms, when other restaurants want to allow dogs too.

The board discussed the other towns who allow dogs on sidewalks where there are tables. Boston does

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not have any variances on the issue.

Mr. Loiacono stated that they would have a designated area that was dog friendly.

Ms. Dominick stated that she has not looked into the liability issues yet and they could not put a gate up on the deck.

The board discussed the report from residents that there were dogs in the Mile Marker restaurant.

Mr. Cowan stated that he is concerned about the irresponsible dog owners.

Mr. Loiacono stated that they have utility people who would be responsible for cleaning up after dogs if the owners did not.

Chairperson Sagall stated that he is concerned with dogs that are out of control and the liability issues.

The board agreed to take the issue any advisement so they can do research.

OLD BUSINESS

OPIATE ABUSE: A CALL TO COMMUNITY ACTION –

Ms. Burke stated that she attended the Angels Program orientation at Addison Gilbert Hospital a couple weeks ago. She stated that there were about 20 people who attended. She stated that one individual came into the Police Department and sought help last Monday. *Mr. Cowan* stated that there was no paraphernalia brought in with that individual. She stated that they still have issues regarding the number of beds available. She stated that Salem is looking to model the forum that Gloucester did last month and invited representatives from Gloucester to attend.

FLUORIDATION IN COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY-

Chairperson Sagall stated that on October 19th, 2015 there will be a panel on fluoridation in the community water supply. He stated that there will be many professionals attending the meeting. He stated that the panel will be from 7:00 -8:30 p.m. at the Kyrouz Auditorium.

Ms. Burke stated that the level of fluoride in the city water was lowered to 0.7 ppm on May 20, 2015.

WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD, BRIEFING UPDATES –

Children's Dental Center Planning – Ms. Burke reported that she has reached out to Maggie Brennan, CEO of North Shore Health, Inc. to start a dialogue regarding referrals between the two sites.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented by Noreen Burke, Max Schenk, and Kelley Ries

SEPTIC CONFERENCE- *Ms. Kirchner* reported that she and Mr. Cowan attended a septic conference in Taunton on June 4, 2015.

CAMP INSPECTIONS- *Ms. Ries* reported June is the month they do camp inspections at the Health Department.

NEEDLE DISPOSAL SITES- *Ms. Ries* reported that she spoke with Sander Shultz regarding the possibility of putting up a few wall mounted sharps disposal containers at a few sites around the city. She stated that the

State is going to deliver a kiosk to the North Shore Health Project.

NORTH SHORE HEALTH PROJECT - *Ms. Ries* reported that she met with Susan Coviello, Director of the North Shore Health Project to learn more about their program.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH- *Ms. Ries* reported that she completed various trainings, did some more emergency preparedness preparation, attended the Cape Ann Sheltering tabletop, attended a MIMA seminar followed along with Mrs. Nicastro on some food inspections, and toured the homeless shelter.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES- *Ms. Ries* reported there has been an ongoing TB case, 2 campylobacter cases, 1 acute Hepatitis C case, and a Group B strep that she has been monitoring. She stated that they suspect that 25 people have contracted Lyme disease. She stated that she made some bookmarks with tick information on them and brought them to City Hall and they have run out, so she will deliver more tomorrow.

Mr. Harris asked how residents should dispose of any expired medication. *Ms. Ries* responded that expired medications should be brought to the Police Station for proper disposal.

MANAGEMENT COURSE - *Mr. Schenk* reported that he attended a management course with Ms. Burke, entitled Managing Effectively in Today's Public Health Environment.

HOUSING INSPECTION TRAINING - *Mr. Schenk* reported that he will be attending a Housing Inspection Training with Chris Sargent in Amesbury. He stated that it is a certification process that is very intense and very informative.

CATCH BASIN TRAINING - *Mr. Schenk* reported that a regulation was just passed by legislation to allow people to complete a training for catch basin applicator programs for mosquito control.

STAFFING UPDATES- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Coordinator posting has just closed and they received eleven resumes that they will review.

GRANTS- *Ms. Burke* reported that they received funding for the Regional Underage Drinking Grant. She stated that Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition grant was offered to the National Institute of Greater Lawrence. She stated that this is the new configuration for emergency preparedness

NORTH SHORE HEALTH BREAKFAST - *Ms. Burke* reported that she attended the North Shore Health breakfast with Mrs. Nicastro.

ACTION, INC. - *Ms. Burke* reported that she attended the 50TH Anniversary Action, Inc. event. She stated that it was very inspiring.

BUDGET- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Budget meeting was on May 20, 2015 and Chairperson Sagall attended the meeting with her.

NEW VEHICLES- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Health Department received some new electric vehicles.

ANNUAL REPORT- *Ms. Burke* reported that the Annual Report is now on the City website and was given to various media outlets.

Ms. Burke thanked then Health Department staff for all their hard work.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

URGENT CARE- *Mr. Cowan* stated the draft text for the request of Lahey Health to evaluate the possibility for an Urgent Care Facility at AGH was approved. Chairperson Sagall to sign and send.

HAZARDOUS WASTE BANNER- *Mr. Harris* stated that he was concerned about a banner that mentioned hazardous waste that was on Route 128. The board discussed the banner and thought it might be related to a union issue.

IMMUNIZATIONS- *Chairperson Sagall* stated there was an article in the newspaper regarding the expansion of exemptions of immunizations.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS- *Ms. Burke* stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on July 9th, 2015.

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Richard Sagall, Chairperson

Documents Referenced:
June 4th Board of Health Agenda
May 7th Board of Health Minutes
May 2nd Board of Health and City Council Minutes
June 1st Septic Subcommittee Minutes
Monthly Reports