

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER  
Board of Health  
Minutes of the Meeting  
May 7, 2015  
City Hall Annex  
3 Pond Road  
Gloucester, MA 01930**

15 JUL 14 PM 3:17  
CITY CLERK  
GLOUCESTER, MA

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. Cowan to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes of the meeting of April 2, 2015 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Mr. Cowan to approve the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Review Subcommittee minutes of the meeting of March 31, 2015 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

*Mr. Cowan* stated that with three members present at meetings, they are now allowed to vote on tight tank requests since an amendment was made to Massachusetts Department of Public Health policy. He stated that the approval can be rescinded by the full board if needed.

**MOTION** by Mr. Cowan to approve the Gloucester Board of Health Septic Review Subcommittee minutes of the meeting of April 28, 2015 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no "New Business".

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OPIATE ABUSE: A CALL TO COMMUNITY ACTION –**

*Chairperson Sagall* stated that most board members attended the joint meeting between the Board of Health and the City Council on Saturday, May 2, 2015. He stated that the event was very well attended and was a great community effort. He commended the Health Department staff for all the work they did in putting the event together.

*Ms. Schweitzer* stated that she is concerned that there is still the issue of not enough beds if people want to get help. *Mr. Rosa* responded that Chief Campanello has vowed to go to Washington D.C. to get the representatives to put pressure on the insurance companies to start paying for these beds.

*Ms. Burke* stated that Chief Campanello has stated that if you want help, all you have to do is walk into

the police station, and no criminal charges will be brought against you.

*Ms. Schweitzer* stated that if other communities in the North Shore joined in, they might get more results with insurance companies. *Chairperson Sagall* stated that he is hopeful that the publicity of the issue will help as well.

#### **FLUORIDATION IN COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY-**

*Chairperson Sagall* stated that the symposium that was put on by the Rockport Board of Health was excellent. He stated that Cape Ann Television recorded the meeting and the DVD could be borrowed if a board member would like to view it. The board discussed holding a symposium in Gloucester. *Chairperson Sagall* stated that there is a letter in the packet from the Department of Public Health regarding the change by the CDC in the recommended levels of fluoride.

**MOTION** by *Ms. Schweitzer* that in accordance with the Center for Disease Control's recommendation and the recommendation of the Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the Gloucester Board of Health recommends to lower the level of fluoride in the city water to 0.7 ppm. **Seconded** by *Mr. Rosa*. **CARRIED**. The motion passed **unanimously**.

#### **WORKING SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE BOARD, BRIEFING UPDATES –**

*Children's Dental Center Planning* – *Ms. Burke* reported that the Children's Dental Center Planning is moving ahead and she has nothing new to report.

### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

Presented by *Noreen Burke, Max Schenk, and Kelley Ries*

**MEASLES-** *Ms. Ries* stated that there was a measles case reported at the Cape Ann Museum. She stated that there was an exposure issue with the fourteen staff members that work there. She stated that she had to do some follow up and provided some education for the staff. She stated that the museum does not keep a log of the visitors that enter the museum. She stated that if you were born before 1957, you are immune to the disease.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH-** *Ms. Ries* stated that she has been doing some community outreach. She stated that she has building relationships and has met with Protective Services, Senior Care, Sandra Sholds, and Cindy Junker. She stated that she is working on tick borne diseases and attended the Council of Aging meeting and did some education there on the issue. *Chairperson Sagall* stated that they should check to ensure the signs they made are still up around the city. *Mr. Schenk* responded that they have a list of locations and will check on the signs.

**EBOLA-** *Ms. Burke* stated that they are still monitoring the Ebola virus and they are letting the State monitor any people that have arrived from Liberia.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT -** *Mr. Schenk* thanked the board members who attended the rededication event of the water treatment plant.

**HOUSING INSPECTION TRAININGS-** *Mr. Schenk* reported that he and Chris Sargent have been attending multi-day trainings on housing inspections. He stated that it is a certification process that is very intense and very informative.

**REGULATIONS-** *Mr. Schenk* reported that he has started to review Board of Health regulations for formatting issues, grammar issues, and compliance issues.

**OUT OF THE OFFICE-** *Mr. Schenk* reported that he will not be in the office from May 18<sup>th</sup> through May 29<sup>th</sup>. He stated that Ms. Kirchner or Mr. Sargent will be able to assist board members in his absence.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT-** *Ms. Burke* reported that workforce development is a huge priority of the state. She stated that the state wants to standardize what housing inspectors are doing in every Health Department and to increase competency in skills and in education to prepare the state for accreditation.

**ANNUAL REPORT-** *Ms. Burke* reported that she is doing the final edits on the Annual Report.

**OPEN MEETING LAW FORUM-** *Ms. Burke* reported that there was an excellent forum on the Open Meeting Law and the changes that are being implemented.

**STAFFING UPDATES-** *Ms. Burke* reported that the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative Coordinator position is still open. She stated that the leading candidate for the position withdrew and they are reposting.

**GRANTS-** *Ms. Burke* reported that they are still waiting to hear from the state regarding the status of the Regional Underage Drinking Grant. She stated that the DFC renewal grant will also be announced later this year. She stated that the Public Health Awareness Grant ends of June 30, 2015.

**BUDGET-** *Ms. Burke* reported that the Budget meeting will be in May 20, 2015 and Chairperson Sagall will attend the meeting with her.

**EVENTS-** *Ms. Burke* reported that the North Shore Health Project breakfast is on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Action Inc. is holding their annual event celebrating fifty years on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM-** *Ms. Burke* reported that she has had some preliminary discussions about a needle exchange program in Gloucester.

## **CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

**URGENT CARE CENTER-** *Mr. Cowan* stated that he would like the Board to spearhead an initiative to ask Lahey Health to provide Addison Gilbert with a fast track urgent care clinic to run simultaneously with the emergency room to enable people who need care to come forth without having to go through the time and expense of the emergency room. He proposed to draft a letter on behalf of the board. The board urged Addison-Gilbert and Lahey Health to look into the feasibility of opening an urgent care facility in Gloucester.

**MS. KIRCHNER-** *Chairperson Sagall* stated that he worked with a contractor who commended Ms. Kirchner for her professionalism and her positive attitude.

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS-** *Ms. Burke* stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**MOTION** by Mr. Rosa to adjourn.  
Seconded by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**  
**MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Page 4  
Minutes of the Board of Health  
May 7, 2015  
Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:



---

Richard Sagall, Chairperson

**Documents Referenced:**

May 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Health Agenda  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> Board of Health Minutes  
March 31<sup>st</sup> Septic Subcommittee Minutes  
April 28<sup>th</sup> Septic Subcommittee Minutes  
Monthly Reports