

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
February 2, 2012
CATA Training Room
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930

Board members present: Chairperson: Claudia Schweitzer; Vice–Chairperson: Dr. Richard Sagall; Frederick Cowan, and Joseph Rosa. Absent: Robert Harris. Present from the Health Department: Public Health Director: Noreen Burke; Public Health Nurse: Chassea Robinson.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 12, 2012 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED**.

PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Presented by Noreen Burke

NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY- *Ms. Burke* reported that she was interviewed by the Gloucester Daily Times yesterday. She stated that the article should be published in the newspaper on February 3, 2012. She stated that the Beacon is going to run an article next week as well.

HEALTHY GLOUCESTER COLLABORATIVE- *Ms. Burke* reported that she attended the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative meeting. She stated that there was a national expert that spoke at the meeting on teen marijuana use. She stated that the collaborative is considering hiring the expert as a consultant to do a public education campaign.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING- *Ms. Burke* reported that Chairperson Schweitzer is going to accompany her at the City Council meeting on February 14, 2012.

HEALTH EXPO- *Ms. Burke* reported that they have started planning for the Health Expo. She stated that there will be a change of location this year. She stated that the fair will be on April 14, 2012 at the Addison Gilbert Hospital.

DRUG FREE COMMUNITY COORDINATOR- *Ms. Burke* reported that they are in the process of hiring a Drug Free Community Coordinator.

Ms. Burke stated that she has had a good start and thanked the staff for their support. She stated that it would be beneficial if the Health Department was located closer to City Hall.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT

Presented by Chassea Robinson

SHINGLES VACCINE- *Mrs. Robinson* reported that the City gave the Health Department \$16,000 from the free cash allotment to purchase Shingles vaccine. She stated that the clinic will be on February 9, 2012 from 1-4.

HEPATITS C TESTS- *Ms. Robinson* reported that she had a meeting with representatives from Northeast Behavioral Health regarding Hepatitis C testing. She stated that they will probably run the testings once a month, possibly the last Wednesday of every month. She stated that she spoke with Sunny Robinson regarding assisting with the testing. She stated that she spoke with Brian King from Northeast Behavioral Health as well and he stated that he is worried about Gloucester losing their rapid HIV testing abilities because there is no place for people to go for confirmatory tests. She stated that they are reaching out to the Gloucester Community Health Center to do those confirmatory tests. *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated that it should be the responsibility of the hospital to do the confirmatory testing not the Public Health Nurse.

BED BUGS- *Ms. Robinson* reported that there is going to be a bed bug presentation on March 2, 2012. She stated that it is not open to the public; it is geared for retail shops. She stated that they could offer another presentation in the spring for the public. *Ms. Burke* stated that *Ms. Robinson* is doing a great job with the program and they really need to focus on the housing piece.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TOBACCO CONTROL ADMINISTRATOR, JOYCE REDFORD, POSSIBLE CHANGES TO BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS FOR SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO MINORS

The board discussed the recommendations from the Tobacco Control Administrator, Joyce Redford, possible changes to Board of Health Regulations for sale of tobacco products to minors. The board agreed to invite Joyce Redford to the next meeting and discuss the changes to the regulations again at that time.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that Gloucester Board of Health table the "Review of Recommendations from the Tobacco Control Administrator, Joyce Redford, Possible Changes to Board of Health Regulations for Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors". **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED**.

Ms. Burke stated that she will send information to board members on the regulations before the next meeting.

REVIEW AND VOTE FOR TIER III VARIANCE ON BEACH TESTING FOR: CRESSEY'S, NILES, HALF MOON, PAVILION

Ms. Burke stated that, based on the strong record of good water testing results at 4 of the City's beaches, the Mass Department of Public Health is allowing the City to continue to perform water quality sampling at a reduced frequency for Pavilion, Niles, Cressy's and Half Moon beaches. This is a variance that has been allowed by the state for a number of years and saves both time and money. *Mr. Cowan* stated that he thought Wingersheek Beach was on the list in the past. *Mr. Rosa* stated that beaches are large as Wingersheek should not have fewer tests.

MOTION by Dr. Sagall that Gloucester Board of Health approve the Tier 3 variance request to the Mass Department of Public Health and accept the recommended schedule for beach testing at Cressey's, Niles, Half Moon, and Pavilion, as outlined in the material received from Mr. Schenk. **Seconded** by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED**.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING- *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated that the next meeting is on March 1, 2012 at 6:15 at the CATA Training Room. *Mr. Rosa* and *Mr. Cowan* stated that they will not be able to attend that meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Claudia Schweitzer, Chairperson