

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
January 10, 2013
CATA Training Room
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930

Board members present: Chairperson: Claudia Schweitzer Vice–Chairperson: Dr. Richard Sagall, Joe Rosa, Frederick Cowan and Robert Harris. Present from the Health Department: Public Health Director: Noreen Burke; Manager of Environmental Health: Max Schenk; Sanitarian: Jason Dustin; Food Inspector: Rosalie Nicastro.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health change the order of business to have the “Health Director’s Report” follow after “Elections” on the agenda of January 10, 2013. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED**.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 4, 2012 as edited. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED**.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of November 1, 2012 as written. **Seconded** by Dr. Sagall. **CARRIED**.

MOTION by Mr. Harris that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 6, 2012 as written. **Seconded** by Dr. Sagall. **CARRIED**.

REGULATION RESTRICTING SALE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE DELIVERY PRODUCTS-

Chairperson Schweitzer gave a brief description of the proposed regulations restricting tobacco and nicotine products. She stated that she did receive correspondence from NATO asking them to consider new information but once the public hearing has been closed, the Board of Health no longer accepts any new information.

The board discussed the schedule for compliance of the regulations.

Joyce Redford of the Tobacco Control Program appeared before the board. She suggested that the board give vendors 30-60 days to comply with the new regulations. She suggested that all board members sign a copy of the regulation to send to Boston.

The board agreed to give vendors until March 1, 2013

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that Gloucester Board of Health that accept the regulations restricting the sale of tobacco products and nicotine delivery products as written and that the regulation shall take effect on March 1, 2013. **Seconded** by Dr. Sagall. **CARRIED**.

The board thanked Ms. Redford for her assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

7 CEDARWOOD ROAD-

James & Julie Ramsdell, Owners

Map 242, Lot 33

Gateway Consultants, Engineer

Request permission to replace the existing failed septic system with a holding tank with the following variance:

1. To situate a tank within 10 feet of a foundation (6 ft provided)- Local Upgrade Request [310 CMR 15.405(1)]

John Judd, Engineer with Gateway Consultants, appeared before the board on behalf of the owners. He gave a brief overview of the request to install a holding tank.

Mr. Dustin stated that the Health Department has no objections to the proposed variance to install the holding tank to remove the existing failed system.

Chairperson Schweitzer 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 grant the variances requested for 7 Cedarwood Road providing that there is an operation and maintenance schedule and an alarm installed with the system. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

18 DUNE LANE-

David Gealson, Owner

Map 256, Lot 46

Gateway Consultants, Engineer

Request permission to upgrade the existing failed septic system with the following variances:

1. Reduction in offset between bottom of leaching facility and seasonal high water table (3' provided, 5' required) [310 CMR 15.212]
2. Less than 4 feet of naturally occurring pervious material (39"-49" provided, 48" required) [310 CMR 15.240(i)]
3. Reduction in setbacks between leaching facility and foundation (10' provided, 20' required) [310 CMR 15.211, GOSWR 2.1]

John Judd, Engineer with Gateway Consultants, appeared before the board on behalf of the owner. He gave a brief overview of the requested variances.

Mr. Dustin stated that the Health Department recommends approval of the proposed variances which would eliminate the failed system and provide a substantial improvement in treatment technology.

Chairperson Schweitzer 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 Gloucester Board of Health grant the variances requested for 18 Dune Lane provided they have an operation and maintenance contract. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON-

Mr. Harris **nominated** Richard Sagall as chairperson for the Gloucester Board of Health. *Richard Sagall* accepted the nomination as Chairperson.

Votes for Richard Sagall to be Chairperson for the Gloucester Board of Health:

Frederick Cowan

Rob Harris

Joseph Rosa

Rich Sagall

Claudia Schweitzer

VICE-CHAIRPERSON-

Mr. Cowan **nominated** Rob Harris as Vice-Chairperson. *Rob Harris* accepted the nomination as Vice-Chairperson.

Votes for Rob Harris to be Vice-Chairperson for the Gloucester Board of Health:

Frederick Cowan

Rob Harris

Joseph Rosa

Rich Sagall

Claudia Schweitzer

MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR, & PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORTS

Presented by Noreen Burke, Max Schenk & Chassea Robinson

INFLUENZA- Ms. Burke reported that Mayor Menino has declared a public health emergency in Boston because of the increased incidents in influenza like symptoms. She stated that there have been 700 confirmed cases in Boston this flu season with 18 deaths. She stated that there have been 6000 cases reported in Massachusetts. She stated that the Gloucester's Mayor's office contacted the Health Department yesterday to inquire if Gloucester should be doing anything more than we have already done. She stated that they have already vaccinated 3000 Gloucester residents. She stated that they did hold a flu clinic today. She stated that last year they had no confirmed cases of influenza in Gloucester and this year they have 22 cases thus far. She stated that DPH has informed all Health Departments that flu activity will continue to increase dramatically over the next few weeks until it peaks and starts to decrease. She stated that the Health Department has 30 doses on hand right now and 90 more are coming. She stated that there will be a clinic next week at Addison Gilbert Hospital.

Ms. Burke stated that the best way to prevent the flu is to get vaccinated and it is not too late to get vaccinated. She stated that residents should call the Health Department to schedule an appointment. She stated that residents should stay home from school, work, and other social activities if they are sick and wash their hands and cover their cough. She stated that Ms. Robinson and the entire Health Department did an excellent job today and throughout the flu season.

Dr. Sagall stated that the Board of Health needs to respond to the "Good Morning Gloucester" blog. The board agreed that Dr. Sagall send an email to respond to the blog.

Chairperson Schweitzer stated that City Hall is a good place to hold flu clinics because it is a central location.

Dr. Sagall asked if they could find out how many flu vaccinations that the pharmacies administered this year. Ms. Burke responded that she would look into that for Dr. Sagall.

MOSQUITO CONTROL UPDATES- Ms. Burke reported that Mr. Schenk and she are pressing ahead with mosquito control recommendations to the Mayor. She stated that there is a regional public forum on March 7, 2013; she asked the Chair and Vice-Chair to attend the forum with her.

FIRE CHIEF- Ms. Burke reported that they have a nice, emerging partnership with the new Fire Chief, Eric Smith.

DENTAL CENTER- Ms. Burke gave board members a financial analysis for the Dental Center and highlighted some of the center's finances. She stated that she met with Maggie Brennan the Executive Director of the Gloucester Family Health Center and they are going to convene a lunch between personnel of the Gloucester Health Dental Center and their dental center so there is more of a seamless referral system.

CHAIRPERSON SCHWEITZER- Ms. Burke thanked Chairperson Schweitzer for all her help during the last year and looks forward to working with the new Chair and Vice-Chair.

GRANTS- Ms. Burke stated that the Opiate Intervention Grant is ending on June 20, 2013 as well as two other grants, so she has hired a grant writer to assist in writing and of these grants.

FREE CASH- *Ms. Burke* stated that the Mayor has asked all city departments to create a list of items that they are in need of. She stated that they put a number of things on the list such as: linking their complaints and permits to Revenue Sense, digitizing Title 5 records, professional development, and a new vehicle.

DISCS ON BEACHES- *Mr. Schenk* reported that last year the sewer outflow program in New Hampshire released discs that made their way to Gloucester's beaches and as far as the Jersey Shore. He stated that these discs continue to wash up after large storms and there should not be cause for alarm.

DEP REGULATORY- *Mr. Schenk* reported that Mr. Dustin has been wonderful in assisting in monitoring and deciphering the changes that have been coming from the DEP regulatory changes.

MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES- *Ms. Burke* thanked Mr. Rosa for attending the marijuana dispensaries forum at City Hall.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS- *Ms. Burke* stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on February 7, 2013. The board changed the date of the March Board of Health meeting to March 14, 2013 due to a conflict with the Mosquito Control Forum. *Dr. Sagall* stated that he will not be able to attend the meeting on March 14th.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

HOLIDAY GATHERING- The board discussed a date for the holiday gathering. The board agreed on January 17, 2013 at 5 p.m.

SEPTIC APPROVALS- *Dr. Sagall* asked how the maintenance proponents of the septic variances are enforced. *Mr. Dustin* responded that the Health Department types up the conditions of the approval and sends them to the engineer.

COYOTES- *Mr. Harris* asked if the coyote population in Gloucester has been addressed. *Mr. Schenk* responded that the Police Chief gave a brief statement that said that there have been no more or less coyote sightings this year in comparison to past years.

MOTION by Mr. Rosa to adjourn.
Seconded by Dr. Sagall. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

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Accepted by:

Claudia Schweitzer, Chairperson