

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

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

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 July 5, 2012 as written. **Seconded** by Dr. Sagall. **CARRIED**.

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

Presented by Noreen Burke & Max Schenk

SEPTIC UPDATE FOR 6 OLD SALEM ROAD- *Mr. Schenk* stated that the board’s orders have been followed at 6 Old Salem Road for the failed septic system. He stated that the property owner has taken the settling tank and turned into a tight tank and regular pumping has been scheduled. He stated that a soil evaluation request was made for the property as well.

SEPTIC UPDATE FOR 13 CEDARWOOD ROAD- *Mr. Schenk* stated that Health Department sent a letter to the owner of 13 Cedarwood Road for the property to schedule pumping. He stated that a plumber was called to the house and they cleaned the line from the house to the tank, which was clogged. He stated that the plumber removed the diversion line, as well. He stated that the system is still in failure and they have two years to upgrade the system.

RELATIONSHIPS IN THE COMMUNITY- *Ms. Burke* reported that she is continuing to do outreach to community leaders. She stated that she met with Richard Safier the Superintendent of Gloucester Public Schools, and Susan Oleksiw of the North Shore Health Project.

DENTAL CENTER- *Ms. Burke* stated that Sarah Baird, the intern at the Health Department, has been working on a brochure for the Dental Center. She stated that the brochure is almost ready to print.

JOAN WHITNEY- *Ms. Burke* stated that Joan Whitney, the Director of the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative is sending a proposal to the Tower Foundation to sustain the Health Promotion Advocate position, which helps screenings for substance abuse at the emergency room at the Addison Gilbert Hospital. She stated that Ms. Whitney also facilitated a difficult patron training for various City departments last week at the Sawyer Free Library, which was very informational.

GET FIT GLOUCESTER- *Ms. Burke* reported that she is trying to assist Steve Winslow with the Get Fit Gloucester Program. She stated that she feels that Gloucester needs a research partnership to increase visibility and apply for federal grants.

COOLING SHELTER- *Ms. Burke* stated that the Health Department was called in to open a cooling shelter for the second heat wave of the summer. She stated that the City has still not hired an EMD Director.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REGIONALIZATION- *Ms. Burke* reported that Manchester is not interested in public health nurse regionalization. She stated that she is still going to continue the push towards regionalization.

FLU CLINICS- *Ms. Burke* gave board members a list of all the flu clinics scheduled for the fall. She asked board members to volunteer at the clinics and attend the training on September 5, 2012 at the Addison Gilbert Hospital.

SCHOOL HEALTH SURVEY- *Ms. Burke* gave board members the data from the Gloucester Public School Health Survey.

TEEN BIRTHS- *Ms. Burke* gave board members data involving teenage births in Gloucester. She reported that Gloucester is not one of the top twenty-five cities for teenage births.

Ms. Burke commended Sarah Baird for her assistance during her internship this summer. She reported that August 22, 2012 will be Ms. Baird's last day at the Health Department.

GOOSE COVE RESERVOIR, LARRY DURKIN, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER-

Larry Durkin, Environmental Engineer appeared before the board. He stated that he is concerned about the dog waste at Goose Gove Reservoir since the City is now using that water to supply residents. He stated that he has brought the matter to the attention of the administration of the City. He stated that he spoke to Mr. Schenk about doing some sampling of the water. He stated that Joan Kimberly, of the Citizen Advisory committee, brought forward the idea of an education campaign. He stated that residents need to know that it is a privilege for them to use Goose Cove and they could lose the privilege if they cannot pick up after their dogs. He stated that it would be beneficial to have a management plan for pets for Goose Cove Reservoir. He stated that he is going to review the City ordinances so they can have more documentation. He stated that DPW checks the reservoir levels weekly. He stated that they are going to need the people to police themselves, there needs to be self-enforcement. He stated that he is looking for assistance from the Water Committee. He stated that their main priority is to maintain the quality of the City's drinking water.

The board agreed that a management plan should be created and self-enforcement needs to occur to keep the City drinking water safe.

Mr. Schenk stated that consistency of presence can be beneficial as well.

Ms. Burke asked if there were any funds for an education plan. *Mr. Durkin* stated that if they form a committee there would be little cost in printing copies for educational purposes.

Mr. Cowan stated that there are companies that can be attained by private funds to go in periodically to clean up dog waste.

Chairperson Schweitzer stated people take their dogs off the leash at Goose Cove and there is no way residents can pick up after their dog when their dog isn't on a leash. She stated that the signs need to be bigger.

The board thanked Mr. Durkin for his time and presentation.

OLD BUSINESS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GLOUCESTER BOARD OF HEALTH RESTRICTING THE SALE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE DELIVERY PRODUCTS-

Ms. Burke stated that the consensus of the board from the July meeting was to change the definition of the word employer/employee and to allow the sale of tobacco products in pharmacies only by pharmacists. She stated that she discussed the two issues with the City Solicitor, Suzanne Eagan, and she recommended that the board follow the model regulation set forth by the State.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Gloucester Board of Health reconsider the vote as taken on July 5, 2012 that presents the language as it stands presently. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

The board agreed to follow the model regulation set forth by the State.

MOTION by Dr. Sagall that the Gloucester Board of Health accept the model proposal for Tobacco Control as proposed by Joyce Redford and DJ Wilson. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED.**

The board agreed that the board should send a letter regarding the proposed regulations to the local pharmacies.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD OF HEALTH ELECTIONS- *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated that elections will be in September. She stated that she would be willing to continue as Chairperson until January.

PUMPING STATION- *Mr. Cowan* stated that the smell from the pumping station on Washington Street is repulsive. *Mr. Schenk* stated that the City is aware of the smell and they are looking into the issue.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING- *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated that the next meeting is on September 6, 2012 at 6:15 at the CATA Training Room.

MOTION by Mr. Harris to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Claudia Schweitzer, Chairperson