

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
September 6, 2012
CATA Training Room
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930

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

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

MOTION by Dr. Sagall that the Gloucester Board of Health approve the Minutes of the Meeting of August 2, 2012 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED**.

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

Presented by Noreen Burke & Max Schenk

OCTOBER BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING- *Ms. Burke* stated that the proposed Tobacco Regulations are on the agenda for the October Board of Health meeting. *Chairperson Schweitzer* and *Dr. Sagall* stated that they will not be able to attend that meeting. *Ms. Burke* stated that there are two more tobacco vendors in Gloucester, and the other communities have put a cap on the number of tobacco permits allowable in the community. The board agreed that they need to be proactive and review regulations periodically.

GRANTS- *Mr. Burke* stated that they had four grants in front of the City Council. She stated that two of the grants were approved by the City Council and two were not. She stated that the Substance Abuse Prevention Grant and the largest of the Emergency Preparedness grant were both approved; the Medical Reserve Corps and the NACCHO grants were not approved. She stated that she will go back before the City Council on Tuesday regarding the grants. Board members stated that they will try to attend the City Council meeting on Tuesday.

TOWER FOUNDATION GRANT- *Ms. Burke* stated that Joan Whitney is working on submitting a proposal to support the Health Promotion Advocate through the Tower Foundation. She stated that Ms. Whitney is doing great work on all the grant writing.

OVERDOSE VIGIL- *Ms. Burke* stated that she attended the Overdose Vigil last Friday evening and it was well attended and very moving.

GET FIT GLOUCESTER- *Ms. Burke* stated that she would like Steve Winslow and the Public Health Nurse to come in front of the board to discuss the Get Fit Gloucester Program, healthy eating, active living and the possibility of a trans fat regulation.

MOSQUITO RELATED ILLNESSES- *Ms. Burke* stated that infected mosquitoes were found in Hamilton. She stated that the Gloucester Times contacted her and asked if Gloucester was going to spray. She stated that Gloucester is a low risk community and at this time do not have plans to spray.

MOSQUITO RELATED ILLNESSES. CON'T- *Ms. Burke* stated that residents should use repellents, wear long sleeves, and remove any standing water. *Mr. Schenk* stated that Gloucester is a low risk community due to the type of mosquito that is in the area. The salt water mosquito does not carry the EEE virus.

HEALTHY GLOUCESTER COLLABORATIVE- *Ms. Burke* stated that Joan Whitney and the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative are sponsoring a discussion regarding the medical marijuana referendum on September 12th at the new Endicott College site on Commercial Street.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REGIONALIZATION- *Ms. Burke* reported that they are still looking at regionalization of the region's Public Health Nurses. *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.

HOUSE BOATS- *Mr. Schenk* stated that Jason Dustin, Sanitarian of the Gloucester Health Department and the Shellfish Constable, Dave Sargent have been discussing their concerns regarding wastewater from house boats in the Annisquam River and Jone's Creek. He stated that they are looking into creating a regulation to prevent wastewater pollution of house boats. He asked if board members would like Mr. Sargent to discuss this issue in front of the board. The board agreed to invite Mr. Sargent to a Board of Health meeting.

FLU CLINICS- *Ms. Robinson* stated that the work group has been meeting to discuss flu clinics. She stated that postcards with flu clinic dates went out to all resident that attended a flu clinic last year. She stated that flu vaccines will also be offered to all children who attend Gloucester schools. For scheduled flu clinics see attached list: [2012 Flu Clinics.docx](#)

OLD BUSINESS

TOBACCO UPDATES-

Ms. Burke stated that proposed Tobacco regulations will be on the agenda next month for the Board of Health to vote on. She stated that it does not appear that any of the pharmacies are in opposition of the proposed regulations.

NEW BUSINESS

HEPATTIS C PRESENTATION-

Ms. Robinson presented the board with a Power Point on Hepatitis C. She discussed how Hepatitis C has increased in the community, and strategies to try to decrease the number of cases in the community. She stated that one area that they identified as problematic is that Gloucester has limited data on risk factors. She stated that they are looking into recruiting someone to contact newly reported cases to gather data. She stated that they are hoping to offer the rapid Hep C test at the Action Shelter every couple of weeks. The board thanked Ms. Robinson and Ms. Baird for the presentation.

REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES-

There were no "Reports of Subcommittees".

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

ROLE OF BOARD OF HEALTH- *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated the role of Gloucester Board of Health has always been the responsibility of each board member at some point to be the Chairperson and take on more responsibility. She stated that it needs to get back to each board member accepting responsibilities and rotating through the different positions.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING- *Chairperson Schweitzer* stated that the next meeting is on October 4, 2012 at 6:15 at the CATA Training Room.

MOTION by Mr. Harris to adjourn.
Seconded by Dr Sagall. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Claudia Schweitzer, Chairperson