

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER  
Board of Health  
Minutes of the Meeting  
November 1, 2012  
CATA Training Room  
3 Pond Road  
Gloucester, MA 01930**

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

In the absence of Chairperson Schweitzer, Rich Sagall acted as Chairperson.

**PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION**

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

The board continued the approval of the Minutes of the September and October meetings, since there was not a quorum of attendees from those meetings.

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

Presented by Noreen Burke, Max Schenk & Chassea Robinson

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY- *Ms. Burke* stated that the Addison Gilbert and the Lahey Clinic held a public forum and presented the data collected from the Health Needs Assessment Survey. She stated that 1100 people were surveyed, 322 which were Gloucester residents. She stated that only 50% of people surveyed said they had dental care. *Dr. Sagall* stated that he was surprised at how underrepresented Gloucester residents were on the survey.

DENTAL CENTER- *Ms. Burke* gave board members some promotional materials regarding the Gloucester Dental Center. She stated that Sarah Baird, the intern that worked with the Health Department this summer put the brochure together. She stated that the Dental Center accepts Mass Health and CMSP insurance. She stated that she and Mr. Schenk met with the City Auditor to discuss the fiscal aspects of the dental center.

HURRICANE SANDY- *Ms. Burke* stated that the Health Department was heavily involved in the emergency preparedness around Hurricane Sandy. She stated that it was a great learning experience.

MOSQUITO RELATED ILLNESSES- *Ms. Burke* stated that the Health Department is still monitoring mosquito related illnesses. She stated that she will work with Mr. Schenk to begin a draft recommendation to City Council regarding the board’s recommendation that the city join the Northeast Mosquito Control Project. She stated that the Mayor has asked her to look into private mosquito control companies.

*Mr. Rosa* stated that mosquitoes are no longer just a nuisance and mosquito illnesses are more likely to get worse. He stated that it behooves the city to provide the citizenry with information about the dangers that are prevalent. He stated that whether or not the city chooses to spray is a separate decision and the spraying aspect should not be part of the city’s decision to join the Northeast Mosquito Control Project.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETINGS- *Ms. Burke* stated that the next Board of Health Meeting will be on December 6, 2012.

COYOTE CONCERNS- *Mr. Schenk* stated that Councilman Whynott was inquiring about the increasing coyote population in Gloucester. He stated that the Health Department, the Animal Control Officer, and the Police Department attended a City Council meeting. He stated that the Animal Control Officer and the Police Chief presented their coyote pest control issues to the Council. He stated that the Health Department has a limited role in coyote pest control.

MILL POND TIDE GATE- *Mr. Schenk* stated that they had their first opportunity to utilize the Mill Pond Tide Gate on Thursday before the storm. He stated that the gate was stuck and they had to call the contractor to come and assess the gate. He stated that they did get the tide gate down before the storm and it was very beneficial in deterring the tidal surge during the storm.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION- *Mr. Schenk* stated that the Department of Environmental Protection is trying to streamline certain permitting processes. He stated that they are sending many Title 5 issues down to the local level. He stated that DEP will still have control over systems that have over 10,000 gallons of flow per day, reviewing proposals that are novel or have significant or adverse impact to the environment.

FLU CLINICS- *Ms. Robinson* stated that they have given out approximately 2500 flu vaccines this season. She stated that there are still clinics to be held at St Ann's Church on November 4, the Magnolia Library on November 6, Addison Gilbert Hospital on November 13, the St. Peter's Club and Marine Railways on November 20 and at City Hall on December 8.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES- *Ms. Robinson* stated that there was a cluster of impetigo at the Gloucester High School. She stated that all the students were seen by their primary doctors and none of the individuals had a culture done so they do not know for sure if it was not MRSA. She stated that all parents were contacted and the locker room was cleaned.

HEPATITIS C- *Ms. Robinson* stated that Rapid Hepatitis C testing has begun at the Action Shelter and will continue on most Wednesday mornings at that location. She stated that there has been increased interest in providing the test at the Grace Center. She stated that they are looking into offering the test there. She stated that CAB is offering free HIV tests on the first Wednesday of every month as well.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 10 NORTH LANDING WAY-

Richard Talkov, Owner

### **Map 232, Lot 18**

Gateway Consultants, Engineer

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

1. To relocate a potable well to be 56' from a new sewage disposal system and 46' to septic tank [GOSWR 2.1, Gloucester Well Regs & Local Upgrade Approval (LUA)]
2. To situate leaching facility within 150' of a potable well (56' onsite & 102' abutter well) [GOSWR 2.1 & LUA]
3. To situate a septic tank 5' from a foundation (10' required) and leaching facility 15' from a foundation (20' required) [GOSWR 2.1 & LUA]
4. To situate a leaching facility within 200' of a coastal wetland (52' provided) [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 variances requested. He stated that the site does have a potable well.

### **10 NORTH LANDING WAY, CON'T-**

*Mr. Dustin* recommended that the engineer may need to put the well in first before construction of the system to ensure the flow is adequate. He stated that the Health Department has no objections to the design of the system. He stated that the Health Department received a call from an abutter stating that he is in favor of the design.

*Dr. Sagall* asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak for or in opposition of the variances requested.

Jeanne Rhineland, 10 Cove Way appeared before the board. She stated that she is concerned that the proposed septic plan may require the removal of many trees on the property.

*Mr. Judd* responded that the only trees that will be taken down are trees that exist on Mr. Talkov's property. He stated that they will try to preserve all the trees that they can.

**MOTION** by Mr. Rosa that Gloucester Board of Health grant the variances requested for 10 North Landing Way with the recommendation that the owner be satisfied with the relocated well ensuring that it be operational before installing the system. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED**.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **6 OLD SALEM ROAD-**

Theresa F. Whitmore, Owner

**Map 215, Lot 23**

*Request permission to extend Board of Health deadline in order to connect to sewer.*

Jim Whitmore of 6 Old Salem Road appeared before the board. He stated that they are requesting permission to extend the Board of Health deadline until the spring in order to connect to city sewer. He stated that the neighbors interested in connecting to City sewer are in the audience. He stated that they have been pumping their tight tank regularly.

*Mr. Harris* asked if National Grid was still a barrier in the project. *Mr. Whitmore* responded that National Grid is still a barrier but they are optimistic in moving forward.

*Mr. Rosa* asked if they had a time table for the project. *Mr. Whitmore* responded that they are working on submitting a proposal to National Grid and hope to start construction in the spring.

**MOTION** by Mr. Rosa that Gloucester Board of Health grant the request for permission to extend the Board of Health's deadline in order to connect to city sewer to May 2, 2013 with the requirement that monthly reports be submitted to the Health Department. **Seconded** by Mr. Harris. **CARRIED**.

### **REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES-**

Septic Subcommittee- *Mr. Rosa* gave a report of the Septic Subcommittee Meeting of October 26, 2012 regarding the installation of a 10,000 gallon holding tank at 84 Causeway Street and the request to extend the installation deadline until April 2014.

## **CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

TRASH CAN AT GOOD HARBOR- *Dr. Sagall* stated that it has been brought to his attention that there is no trash can at the Long Beach end of Good Harbor Beach.

EAST GLOUCESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL- *Mr. Harris* stated that he has heard concerns regarding mold at East Gloucester Elementary School. *Mr. Schenk* stated that he will access the reports done last year at the school and submit those reports to board members.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

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Rich Sagall, Vice-Chairperson