

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
August 3, 2017
5:30 p.m.
City Hall Annex
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930**

Board members present: Chairperson: Dr. Richard Sagall; Vice–Chairperson Robert Harris; Frederick Cowan; and Joe Rosa. Present from the Health Department: Health Director: Karin Carroll; Assistant Director: Max Schenk; Sanitarian: Thorsen Akerly.. Absent: Claudia Schweitzer.

This meeting is being recorded by audio in accordance with State Open Meeting Law.

Chairperson Sagall read the following statement into the record: Given that there are additional noise complaints under investigation by the City since the agenda was sent out and upon advice of the City of Gloucester Counsel the Board of Health will not be hearing new testimony on the New Business agenda item “Discussion Regarding Complaints Received Regarding Noise Emanating from 159 East Main Street, Americold - National Fish and Seafood”. The Board of Health is responsible for hearing any appeals pertaining to noise complaints and therefore will follow the advice of Counsel to delay discussion and testimony until after the complaints have been investigated. At this point the Board of Health does not have any official appeals to be heard from prior noise investigations. We ask, though we can not prohibit, that there be no comment during the public comment section of this meeting on this topic. Any comments may limit our ability to adjudicate appeals on this issue in the future and we apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Cowan to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes of the meeting of July 6th, 2017 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.** Mr. Harris **abstained.**

MOTION by Mr. Harris to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes Septic Review Subcommittee of the meeting of July 19th, 2017 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.** Mr. Rosa **abstained.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Septic Review Subcommittee Report for July 19, 2017-

Mr. Cowan reported that the Septic Review Subcommittee met on July 19, 2017. He stated that all decisions made by the board were unanimous for 239 Concord Street for local upgrade approvals and alternate design approval request as written on the Septic Review Subcommittee agenda of July 19, 2017.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan to accept the Gloucester Board of Health report of the Septic Review Subcommittee of the meeting of July 19th, 2017 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by Public Health Intern Eliza Ottenheimer on the City's Health and Wellness Walking Initiative-

Ms. Carroll introduced Eliza Ottenheimer, Public Health Intern to board members. She stated that Ms. Ottenheimer is a student at American University who is studying public health.

Ms. Ottenheimer appeared before the board. She gave a brief presentation on walking during the work day. The presentation highlighted statistics that show the benefits of walking. She stated that they sent a survey out to the employees of the City of Gloucester and 50% said they would like to be more physically active. She stated that employees are encouraged to bring their sneakers to work and each building has a "champion" who rallies employees to go for a walk. She stated that employees that attended launch day pledged that they would walk at least 15-30 minutes every day and were entered in a raffle to earn prizes such as dumbbells or YMCA gift cards. She stated that the grand prize will be a stand up desk.

Ms. Carroll stated that they have about 19 employees currently engaged in the program.

The board thanked Ms. Ottenheimer for her presentation and her work on the program.

63 Sumner Street (Map 240, Lot 27) Property Owned by Elizabeth Coffey- Represented by Dan Ottenheimer, Mill River Consulting -

Request for approval for tight tank (15.260)(1)) and a local upgrade to reduce the separation distance from inlet and outlet trees to high groundwater elevation from 12" to 11" (15.405)(1)(j))

Dan Ottenheimer of Mill River Consulting appeared before the board. He stated that Elizabeth Coffey and her daughter were present at the meeting. He gave a brief overview of the request for tight tank and the local upgrade request. He stated that they are looking to voluntarily improve their system.

Mr. Akerley stated that the Department does think the requests should be approved given the circumstances with the possible caveat that if the house is sold a leaching field be installed.

Mr. Cowan suggested that they supply the Board of Health with a design for a holding tank that they could approve if the house is sold in the future. There is no precedent to make economic decisions on tight tanks.

Mr. Schenk stated that a notation could be put on the deed that states that the new owner will be responsible for the installation of a fully compliant system.

Chairperson Sagall asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak pro or con. There was no one.

Mr. Cowan asked if *Mr. Ottenheimer* would consider withdrawing the plan without prejudice and return with a drawing that would enable the board to approve a system with a conditional installation with just a portion of the system until such a time that the property changes hands.

Mr. Ottenheimer stated that the test pit results at the property shows that it has less than 4' of naturally occurring soil so by definition the property would not be able to have a fully compliant system.

Elizabeth Coffey of 63 Sumner Street appeared before the board. She stated that when the house is sold there could be a certain amount put into escrow so that the buyer could get a new system and she would contribute to that.

The board discussed other alternatives. *Chairperson Sagall* suggested that the homeowner obtain a statement from the engineer stating that the tank would work if a full septic system was in place. The board suggested that *Ms. Coffey* test the current tank to see if it is watertight or to get a new septic tank but use it as a tight tank with a statement from the engineer.

The board and the owner agreed to defer the item until next month to look at the numbers and for the owner to make a decision for which way she would like to go.

Discussion Regarding Complaints Received Regarding Noise Emanating from 159 East Main Street, Americold - National Fish and Seafood

Chairperson Sagall stated that a statement was read into the record at the start of the meeting and the Board of Health will defer this issue based on the advice from the City Counsel.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Potential Changes to Board of Health Regulation Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Delivery Products and Nicotine Delivery Products, to Include Flavored Tobacco Products -

Joyce Redford of the North Shore Tobacco Policy Program appeared before the board. She gave board members data on nicotine delivery products and flavored tobacco.

The board discussed the statistics around nicotine delivery products and flavored tobacco products. *Ms. Redford* stated that one option is that these products could only be sold at adult only establishments. She stated that flavored products are starter products for kids. *Mr. Cowan* stated that he has an issue with not allowing an adult to buy a product that they are allowed to buy.

The board thanked *Ms. Redford* and decided to discuss the issue at the next meeting.

Update on 1 Pilot's Hill Condemnation Order-

Mr. Schenk stated that the condemnation order remains in place but *Mr. Aro* developed an ailment that has caused a setback and is still recovering. He stated that they will continue to monitor the condemnation order. He stated that they are also monitoring if *Mr. Aro* is living at the property.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented by Karin Carroll and Max Schenk

The following "Monthly Report" was given to Board members.

[August Monthly Report](#)

Ms. Carroll stated that there has been an increase in the number of Lyme Disease reported and they have been doing a lot of outreach around the illness.

Ms. Carroll stated that the sunscreen dispensers have been installed at the local beaches thanks to the Melanoma Foundation.

Ms. Carroll stated that Thursday, August 8 there will be Sun Safety Beach Day in conjunction with the YMCA and the Melanoma Foundation at Good Harbor Beach.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Beaches- *Mr. Harris* stated that after the creek at Good Harbor Beach was closed people were still swimming in it. *Mr. Schenk* stated that they put signs up along the bridge and the lifeguards were made aware of the situation. He stated that *Mr. Akerley* checked and he saw lifeguards trying to get people out of the water. He stated that it was closed on the weekend and they retested on Monday and it was back open on Tuesday. *Mr. Harris* stated that it would be nice if DPW could help the Health Department with the signs.

EpiPens- *Mr. Cowan* stated that students are required to each bring an EpiPen(if they are required to have one) to the school nurse for the school year. He stated that it would make more sense for the schools to carry enough stock of EpiPens to supply their students if needed. *Chairperson Sagall* stated that it is illegal to use someone else's prescription. *Ms. Carroll* stated that she will reach out to Cindy Junker on the issue.

Permitting System- *Chairperson Sagall* asked where they stood on the new permitting system. *Mr. Schenk* responded that the Building Department has fully implemented the new system. He stated that the Food Inspector has been using the new system and dumpster permits have been issued using the new system as well. He stated that the housing permits are not utilizing the system yet because the housing regulations could be changing soon.

Defibrillators- *Mr. Cowan* asked if the library has a defibrillators now. *Ms. Carroll* responded that they are hoping to get funding for that this year.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting Board of Health- The next Board of Health monthly meeting will be on September 7, 2017 at the CATA Training Room at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Richard Sagall, Chairperson

Documents Referenced:
July 6, 2017 Board of Health Agenda

April 6, 2017 Board of Health Minutes
May 4, 2017 Board of Health Minutes
June 1, 2017 Board of Health Minutes
June 22, 2017 Board of Health SRC Minutes
June 2017 Monthly Department Reports