



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Meeting: Franklin County Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

<b>Date:</b> Thursday February 24	<b>Location:</b> Oliver Transit Ctr.	<b>Facilitator:</b> Rob Lingle, Co-Chair
<b>Time:</b> 5:00- 7:00 PM	<b>Room:</b> First Floor Mtg Rm	<b>Mins. taken by:</b> Phoebe Walker

ATTENDEES:	Regrets:	ABSENT:
Jim Bauerlein, Buckland	Meg Burch, Conway	Gill
Kathie Benson, Leyden	<b>Staff:</b>	Deerfield
Deb Couthinho, Shelburne	Phoebe Walker	Monroe
Doug Telling, Charlemont	Glen Ayers	
Betsy Kovacs, Heath	Lisa White	
	Randy Crochier	

Agenda Item	Person
Intros/Minutes	Minutes for January meeting were accepted unanimously, as written.
Needs of our region's elders	<p>Members discussed the issues raised by the data from the MA Health Aging Reports for their towns.</p> <p><u>Places we are already doing work are:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping people manage their many medications – the more chronic conditions people have, the more dangerous their medication interactions become. Lisa has files of life, medication calendars and medication cards for people.</li> <li>• Betsy and Kathie mentioned the transportation problems faced in their towns, and Kathie talked about the model at work in Leyden with a donated car and volunteer drivers.</li> <li>• Walkability assessments of our towns – FRCOG and Life Path will be working on training elders to do these audits later this year as part of the Mass in Motion work.</li> </ul> <p><u>Subjects for more effort identified were:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing places to walk safely in all weather</li> <li>• More senior housing in village centers where people can get to services (Phoebe talked about the work being done in Sunderland as something to watch)</li> <li>• Jim B and Kathie mentioned the importance of getting Baby Boomers to know what resources senior centers have and not just see them as places for someone else. Deb mentioned a friend's "secret" that they were attending the senior center's activity – stigma is a real problem!</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betsy was concerned about the layering of age and income disparity to create poor health outcomes for elders. She suggested a meeting of COA and BOH members in our towns – members enthusiastic about the idea, to be discussed more at next meeting.</li> <li>• Phoebe raised concerns about the health of the district’s small minority population, who experience serious health disparities.</li> <li>• Doug discussed creating more options for intergenerational activities.</li> </ul>
Staff update -- Nurse	Lisa gave a slide show about her chronic disease self-management work and client responses to surveys about their capacity to manage their symptoms and struggles. Lisa
Staff Update – Food Safety Agent	Randy gave an update on his certification progress, and passed out a list of who is signed up for the ServSafe class in March. Class is nearly full, and so far everyone from the district who wanted to attend has been given a slot. The next class will be in June in Charlemont. On April 25 Randy will be training the region’s Medical Reserve Corps members to be basic food handlers, so that they can safely staff a Red Cross shelter. Another piece of good news is that Randy has gotten permission for the CPHS to be an official trainer for the Allergen Certificate as well, another great benefit to offer residents and businesses.
Staff Update – Health Agent	Glen shared a new Buckland Board of Health regulation for Environmental/Health Impact studies. He explained that most local towns have passed an Outside Consultant regulation that allows the BOH to require permitted or licensed projects to conduct third-party analyses to answer questions about the health impact of a project. This regulation allows the board of health to do the same for a project that does not need a permit or license from the BOH, but poses a potential to harm the safety and public health of a town. He is sharing it so other BOHs may consider whether they would like to pass a similar regulation. Jim Bauerlein shared that the BOH is concerned about a proposed new wood pellet boiler at Mohawk Trail Regional School.

This meeting is wheelchair accessible. Please call Phoebe with any requests for accessibility.

**Light Dinner will be served – call Phoebe with any dietary restrictions!**

