## Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee

### Date
June 25, 2019

### Location
Terrazza Ristorante  
244 Country Club Rd  
Greenfield, MA

### Facilitators
Norene Pease and Carolyn Shores Ness, Co-Chairs

### Time
4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### Duration
4 Hours

### ATTENDEES:
- Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH
- Mike Friedlander, Colrain BOH
- Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH
- Trevor McDaniel, Deerfield BOH
- Dick Calisewski, Deerfield Health Agent
- Laura Barrus, Goshen BOH
- Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director
- Hussain Hamdan, Hawley BOH
- Robert Root, Hawley BOH
- Armand Clavette, Heath BOH
- Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH
- John Hillman, Leverett BOH
- Christopher Boutwell, Montague BOH
- Al Cummings, Montague BOH
- Michael Nelson, Montague BOH
- Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director
- Ann Stuart, Montague Health Clerk
- Sheila Litchfield, Rowe Town Nurse
- Deb Coutinho, Shelburne BOH
- Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH
- Catherine Hilton, Shutesbury BOH
- Donna Gibson, Williamsburg BOH

### ABSENT:
- Bernardston BOH
- Charlemont BOH
- Conway BOH
- Erving BOH
- Gill BOH
- Leyden BOH
- Northfield BOH
- Rowe BOH
- Sunderland BOH
- Warwick BOH
- Wendell BOH
- Whately BOH

### GUESTS:
- Denise Banister, Williamsburg EMD
- Sandy Clavette, Heath Resident
- Jim Field, Leverett EMD
- Tim Lively, Heath EMD
- Chief John Paciorek, Deerfield PD
- Garrett Simonsen, Cambridge Health Alliance

### FRCOG STAFF:
- Andrea Crete, Greg Lewis, Mark Maloni, Xander Sylvain, Phoebe Walker, Lisa White
Agenda Items

1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions

Called to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Steering Committee elections

Carolyn Shores-Ness presented the following slate of officers for election to the MAPHCO Steering Committee:
- Duncan Colter, Ashfield
- Mike Friedlander, Colrain
- Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield
- Valerie Bird, Greenfield
- Betsy Kovacs, Heath
- John Hillman, Leverett
- Deb Coutinho, Shelburne
- Norene Pease, Shutesbury
- Donna Gibson, Williamsburg

There was one nomination from the floor:
- Dan Wasiuk, Montague

MOTION: Michael Nelson made a motion to elect the slate as presented, plus the nominee, Dan Wasiuk. Carolyn Shores-Ness seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Presentations and Workshop

Greg Lewis and Carolyn Shores Ness described the year in review (BP1x), highlighting the successes of the SNS drills and describing the development of a regional cache of emergency supplies.

Greg and Carolyn next presented on the origins of public health in the US and its sole purpose of disease control; the emergence of the post-9/11 Public Health Emergency Preparedness program and the need for regional coalitions in MA; and the formation of MAPHCO and its sole reliance on volunteer LBOHs.

Greg and Carolyn described the year ahead as a careful planning study to determine potential restructuring of the coalition, including the addition of members from other municipal departments. They highlighted the efficiency of combining all local resources to prepare for all possible hazards, not only those requiring an EDS response.

Attendees of the meeting listened to, and participated in, presentations by Sheila Litchfield and Tim Lively, Jim Field, and John Paciorek who addressed the benefits of their local, multi-disciplinary emergency management teams. They offered their perspectives that a unified approach improves relationships, pools resources, and expands networks with neighboring towns. Each table of attendees took turns to express their interest in developing their own EMTs, sharing best practices, and receiving regional support.

4. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.