



Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee			
Date	March 31, 2020	Location	CONFERENCE CALL ONLY!
		Call-In Number	(425) 436-6370
		Access Code	372022
Time	4:30-6:30 p.m.	Duration	1 Hour 8 minutes
		Facilitator:	Carolyn Shores Ness & Norene Pease, Co-Chairs

ATTENDEES:	
Deb Coutinho, Shelburne BOH	Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH
Donna Gibson, Williamsburg BOH	Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH
John Hillman, Leverett BOH	Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH
ABSENT:	
Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director	Doug Telling, Charlemont BOH
Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH	Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director
Mike Friedlander, Colrain BOH	
FRCOG STAFF:	
Randy Crochier; Liz Jacobson-Carroll; Mark Maloni; Tracy Rogers; Xander Sylvain; Phoebe Walker; Lisa White	GUESTS:
	Barry Del Castilho, Buckland BOS
	Carmela Lanza-Weil, MRC
	Carl Nelke, Conway BOH
	Michael Nelson, MDPH OPEM

Agenda Items	
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Called to order by Norene Pease at 4:34 p.m.
2. Review/approval of, 2020 minutes	Betsy Kovacs moved to accept the March 16, 2020 minutes, Norene Pease seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Old business	None
4. New business a) Situation report from each EDS	a) Betsy Kovacs reported that the Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) (Charlemont, Hawley, Heath) will begin virtual weekly

b) This week's messaging

meetings on April 6, and that there may be one case of COVID-19 in the area.

Carolyn Shores Ness reported that 23 members of the **Frontier EDS** (Deerfield, Sunderland, Whately) met for the first time on Monday, and that they are working with the police department to make sure that the senior center is fully functional, and that residents are getting the food and medicine they need. They are updating plans for rolling out a vaccine via two drive-thru sites and three indoor sites.

John Hillman and Norene Pease reported that the **Shutesbury/Leverett EDS** has not yet met, but that the emergency management team has put out a reverse-911 call asking residents to contact the fire dept., police dept. or town administrator if they are concerned about the well-being of a member of the community.

Phoebe Walker summarized state law indicating that EDS/board of health/health department members should inform the person in charge of their local dispatch of the address of COVID-19 patients, but may not provide first-responders with any identifying information; she will re-distribute state guidelines on the matter.

Donna Gibson reported that the **Williamsburg/Goshen EDS** has been struggling to identify the address and physician of a reportedly symptomatic resident isolating with her adult daughter. Lisa White summarized recent guidelines on applicability of isolation and quarantine measures, and offered to speak directly with any member wanting more information. Phoebe Walker indicated that the state will be sending this information to primary care physicians, and that she has shared MAVEN contact information with local medical practices and hospitals. Donna said that the EDS is holding weekly conference calls with all town departments, and has been providing the town administrator/PIO with messaging for use on the website and Facebook, and directly to the senior center. In response to gatherings at a local restaurant takeout window, they will reiterate social distancing guidelines. Further, they have established a phone number/voice mail system to take residents' questions, which they respond to multiple times/day.

Deb Coutinho reported that the **Mohawk EDS** is working with Joe Judd and Jody Stetson regarding messaging in their area, including an upcoming robo-call.

Michael Nelson reported that the **Montague EDS** appreciates Gina McNeely's return from retirement to cover the personal leave of the current health director, and that the Town has closed its offices and the climbing structures in its parks.

	<p>b) FRCOG staff will combine topics raised into one statement to public by the end of the week. Messaging will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a reminder for all to be patient and stay home; • clarification of the meanings and applicability of isolation, quarantine, and the stay-at-home order; • instruction regarding disinfectant/sanitization solutions to make at home; • a reminder to report physician diagnosis as well as positive test result to the local BOH; • and possibly information regarding the range and duration of aerosolized virus germs and their life-span on various surfaces. <p>MAPHCO/FRCOG will continue to promote reputable sources of information -- MDPH, CDC, NIH.</p>
<p>5. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>a. There was discussion regarding the logistics, benefits, and drawbacks, now vs. a few weeks from now, of combining the MAPHCO Steering Committee meetings with the CPHS Oversight Board meetings. Carolyn Shores Ness moved to continue virtual MAPHCO Steering Committee meetings weekly, on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m., Donna Gibson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>b. Specifics regarding the state-funded purchase and distribution of thermometers to public health nurses in both CPHS-member and non-member towns were shared. Tracy Rogers will re-send information via email. Mark Maloni pointed to www.region1hmcc.org for details on completing the request form.</p>
<p>6. Wrap-up and adjourn</p>	<p>a. Donna Gibson moved to adjourn the meeting, Norene Pease seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.</p>