



Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee			
<b>Date</b>	May 26, 2020	<b>Location</b>	CONFERENCE CALL ONLY!
		<b>Call-In Number</b>	(425) 436-6370
		<b>Access Code</b>	372022
<b>Time</b>	4:30-6:30 p.m.	<b>Facilitator:</b>	Carolyn Shores Ness & Norene Pease, Co-Chairs

<p><b>ATTENDEES:</b>  <i>Donna Gibson, Williamsburg BOH</i>  <i>Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH</i>  <i>Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH</i>  <i>Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH</i></p>	<p><b>GUESTS:</b>  <i>Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Colrain BOH</i></p>
<p><b>ABSENT:</b>  <i>Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director</i>  <i>Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH</i>  <i>Mike Friedlander, Colrain BOH</i>  <i>Doug Telling, Charlemont BOH</i>  <i>Deb Coutinho, Shelburne</i>  <i>Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director</i></p>	<p><b>FRCOG STAFF:</b>  <i>Mark Maloni</i>  <i>Liz Jacobson-Carroll</i></p>

Ma

Agenda Items	
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Called to order by Pease at 4:39 PM.
2. Review/approval of May 19, 2020 minutes	Gibson moved to accept the May 19, 2020 minutes, with clerical corrections; Shores Ness seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Old business a. CTC Update b. Discussion of specific questions/concerns for CTC staff contacts	Pease prompted a review of the discussion on a 2:00 PM DPH conference call regarding the role of police in enforcing BOH rules, specifically that requiring town meeting and election attendees (excepting those with precluding medical conditions) to wear face coverings. Reference was made to case law protecting municipal

	<p>employees, and to Deerfield Chief of Police John Paciorek, who serves as a representative to a western MA professional organization, and may be called for advice.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. No CTC update was given by CPHS staff</li> <li>b. There was significant discussion regarding the need for improvement on CTC's 60% return rate on phone calls, as local tracing efforts yield a nearly 100% return rate. White anticipates CTC attendance at a MAPHCO meeting in the near future, Maloni reported; in the meantime, he will draft a summary of members' concerns and desire for tighter collaboration.</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. New business       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Situation report from each EDS</li> <li>b) This week's messaging</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. EDS representatives reported as follows:       <p>Williamsburg/Goshen: Gibson indicated that there are three active positive cases in Williamsburg, and that they are considering un-affiliating with the Mohawk EDS in order to join the Hampshire EDS.</p> <p>Frontier: Shores Ness reported a few new cases, and her concern regarding the efficacy of CTC staff efforts.</p> <p>Mohawk: Martin-Anzuoni indicated that they continue to plan for town meeting and the election, and have begun to consider drive-through influenza and COVID-19 vaccination clinics.</p> <p>There was talk regarding the potential difficulty of requesting reimbursement for pandemic-related town meeting expenses and elections under the CARES Act (and the ease of requesting reimbursement from CPHS). Maloni will send information regarding reimbursement procedures, and urged patience.</p> <p>Hawlemont: Kovacs reported a large gathering, seemingly flouting pandemic protocols, in Heath over the Memorial Day weekend. The Heath BOH has voted to postpone the re-scheduling of town meeting until after data from Phase I re-opening can be reviewed.</p> <p>Shutesbury/Leverett: Pease reported the closing of public composting toilets at recreational facilities, and some disregard of the same. (While swimming is not allowed, local beaches may be used with proper distancing.)</p> </li> <li>b. Messaging for the week will "straddle the line" between urging people to stay home, and providing risk-assessment information for those who choose to go out. In doing so, Maloni will encourage the following:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When deciding whether or not to leave home, consider the proximity to, location of, and duration of your</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<p>potential exposure, as well as the riskiness of the activities you might undertake while exposed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know that your Board of Health is consulting with other Town leaders (Public Health Nurses, TA's, BOS's, Police, Librarians, etc.) on safety plans for town meeting and election, and the phases of re-opening.</li> <li>• The start of Phase II is dependent on our collective behavior during Phase I. Do your part.</li> </ul>
<p>5. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>There was discussion regarding the quantity of influenza vaccines that should be ordered from DPH, assuming that the MAPHCO request for free supplies is granted. Suggestions included 25% more and 50% more than last year, referencing potentially greater interest from the public, and the need for practicing for a COVID-19 vaccine roll-out.</p> <p>In response to a question from Pease, Maloni indicated his feeling that Phase I would continue for six weeks or so. Separately, he said that the FRCOG and the Chamber of Commerce are planning bulk procurement of PPE to assist local towns and businesses with Phase I.</p>
<p>6. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>a. Shores Ness moved to adjourn the meeting, Gibson seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM</p>