



Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee			
Date	July 7, 2020	Location	CONFERENCE CALL ONLY!
		Call-In Number	(425) 436-6370
		Access Code	372022
Time	4:30-6:00 p.m.	Facilitator:	Carolyn Shores Ness & Norene Pease, Co-Chairs

<p>ATTENDEES: <i>Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director</i> <i>Donna Gibson, Williamsburg BOH</i> <i>John Hillman, Leverett BOH</i> <i>Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH</i> <i>Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH</i> <i>Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH</i> <i>Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director</i></p>	<p>GUESTS: <i>Rebecca Jones, Whately BOH</i> <i>Gail Bienvenu, MA DPH OPEM</i> <i>Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Colrain BOH</i></p>
<p>ABSENT: <i>Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH</i> <i>Mike Friedlander, Colrain BOH</i> <i>Deb Coutinho, Shelburne</i></p>	<p>FRCOG STAFF: <i>Tracy Rogers; Lisa White; Liz Jacobson-Carroll</i></p>

Agenda Items	
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Called to order by Pease at 4:34 PM
2. Review/approval of June 23, 2020 minutes	Hillman moved to accept the June 23, 2020 minutes; Pease seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Old business a. WRHSAC funding request updates	Rogers reported on a recent WRHSAC meeting, indicating that the public health emergency planners from the four western MA counties have been tasked with submitting funding requests for a trailer or tent by the August meeting. The Council expressed preference for funding a drive-through tent rather than a blow up tent, and for a trailer rather than a self-contained unit such as a camper. Discussion included the possibility of borrowing mobile medical vans from either the Community

	<p>Health Center of Franklin County or the Veterans' District, and the responsibility of the BOH (in each town where migrant farm workers are employed) to conduct testing. Jones raised the possibility of using an inexpensive means of testing groups of people anonymously in order to determine the prevalence of current and past infection; this alternative to the nasal swab, which looks at immunoglobulins, could be applicable to farms and schools, she said. Rogers reminded attendees that the funding is not for COVID-19 specific supplies, and that the request should reflect that. Shores Ness and Jones will assist Rogers in compiling information for WRHSAC.</p>
<p>4. New business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Co-chairs for program year. b) Flu clinic/drill planning. c) EDS equipment/supplies allocation process for BP2. d) Ongoing risk communication messaging need and strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gibson moved to re-appoint Pease and Shores Ness as MAPHCO co-chairs for the fiscal year beginning 7/1/20, Bird seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. b. EDS groups, with the assistance of a FRCOG staff member, will be conducting the following this fall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shutesbury: flu clinic/drill • Williamsburg/Goshen: tabletop exercise in September • Hawlemont: flu clinic/drill • Greenfield: flu clinic/drill • Mohawk: flu clinic/drill • Frontier: drive-through flu clinic at highway garage on 10/4/20. <p>Further, White indicated that CPHS would be conducting flu clinics at Hawlemont School and Frontier School in September; that the Community Health Center would be conducting drive through flu clinics; and that the hospital is considering doing so as well.</p> c. Noting that all EDS' learned the amount of their annual allocation – a per capita division of MAPHCO funds – from staff earlier in the week, Rogers offered to coordinate the bulk-purchasing of supplies, and members accepted the offer. Rogers will send an order sheet. Shores Ness noted that while MAPHCO received additional state funds during the H1N1 crisis, no similar disbursement has thus far been offered to combat COVID-19. MAPHCO funds may be utilized for pandemic purposes, however, unlike WHRSAC funds. Rogers then indicated that she would soon use WHRSAC funds to replenish supplies re-allocated from EDS' for COVID response in mid-March, although the Council has approved only \$30,000 of the \$57,000 needed for full replacement. Members asked her to prioritize the purchase of surgical masks (in lieu of N95s) and face shields. Finally, she indicated that FRCOG will wrap-up its bulk purchasing of PPE for area businesses, organizations and municipalities at the conclusion of the current (second) round. d. Discussion regarding risk communication focused on two topics: the need to reach to out-of-town visitors to local rivers (particularly during holiday weekends when over-use precludes physical distancing), and the need for ample testing of schoolchildren in the fall. Members determined that state-level assistance is necessary

	<p>on both counts; Rogers will formulate and send an email of inquiry to DPH.</p> <p>Members indicated that they have been sending MAPHCO risk-related messages via town websites, newsletters, social media accounts, Reverse 911 calls, and local television stations. Bird believes that posting Greenfield Pool bacteria counts on the City website has moderated usage somewhat, she said. Staff will continue to provide text for town-level distribution on a bi-weekly basis.</p>
5. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting	Shores Ness expressed concern about a lack of access to testing for students in the fall. Rogers will include that concern in her email to DPH.
6. Wrap up and adjourn	The meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2020.
Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda • DRAFT Minutes of June 23, 2020 Meeting