Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee

Date        July 21, 2020
Location    CONFERENCE CALL ONLY!
Call-In Number    (425) 436-6370
Access Code    372022
Facilitator: Carolyn Shores Ness & Norene Pease, Co-Chairs

ATTENDEES:
Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director
Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH
Donna Gibson, Williamsburg BOH
John Hillman, Leverett BOH
Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH
Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH
Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH
Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director

GUESTS:
Gail Bienvenue, MA DPH OPEM
Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Colrain BOH

ABSENT:
FRCOG STAFF:
Tracy Rogers; Mark Maloni; Lisa White; Liz Jacobson-Carroll

Agenda Items

1) Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions
   Called to order by Shores Ness at 4:32 PM.

2) Review/approval of July 7, 2020 minutes
   Pease moved to accept the July 7, 2020 minutes, Bird seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

3) Old business
   a) WRHSAC funding request updates
      i. Trailer purchase and host entity
   b) COVID-19 testing for farms/farmworkers
   c) Flu clinic/drill planning
      i. EPP staff inclusion in planning
     a. Rogers reported that western MA emergency planners, in a meeting last week, determined that the purchase of a trailer (with kitchenette, bed, bath, etc) would better serve the region. Prior to the purchase, a single municipality must step forward to steward the shared resource by registering, insuring, storing and maintaining it as needed; Bird volunteered to investigate Greenfield’s capacity and willingness to do so with Fire Chief Strahan, as the station may have a place for it. (Maloni will send specs to Bird.) Hampshire county
ii. Staff tracking of clinics/drills
iii. Drive-through annex dev.
iv. NWIMT involvement in drills
d) EDS equipment/supplies allocation process for BP2

Currently owns one of these, and may be willing to loan it to Franklin county towns who need one in the next several months prior to receipt of the custom-built trailer.

b. Maloni reviewed the handout “Farmworker Resources Re: COVID-19”, providing background on the region’s migrant worker community, as well as resources available to farmworkers, including a link to area testing sites. He suggested that LBOHs interested in testing specific populations should be in touch with Cameron at the FCCHC, as specific accommodations may be possible.

c. Rogers reminded the group that she had sent an EDS clinic planning guide, and that she and Maloni would like to attend each EDS’s planning meetings and receive related communications. Subsequently, they will adapt the guide to each EDS, thereby meeting the DPH requirement. She listed the ways in which NWIMT can assist EDS’s upon request:
- Create a communications plan, provide radios, patch frequencies
- Provide printer/copier and generator
- Write an IAP – operationalizes EDS plan with specific details for one specific event, including map of traffic flow and stations
- Track costs
- Provide ICS leadership
- PIO
- Safety officer
- Obtain regional equipment from Sheriff’s Office or other locations

Hawlemont will be using some NWIMT equipment, and Frontier will utilize NWIMT staffing of its clinic.

d. Rogers referred to and elaborated on her memo of last week outlining three sources of funding available to emergency dispensing sites: WRHSAC (with a tentative list of supplies to be ordered for each); MAPHCO (with a dollar figure available to each, and an application form); and MA DPH funds for flu clinic supplies. There were questions regarding the town-level allocation of the latter; Rogers will seek more information.

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<th>4) New business</th>
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<td>a) Risk communication messaging needs</td>
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a. i. Maloni’s will make a poster on proper mask wearing, for distribution this week, that will remind residents that the choices they make now will impact their freedoms later.
ii. Maloni provided a link to 9 posters from the CDC targeting young people, noting anecdotally that this population may be spreading the virus in some areas and situations. Rogers has not received a response from the DPH regarding the MAPHCO request for help with messaging.

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<th>5) Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</th>
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<td>Rogers provided background and proposed means to streamline FRCOG’s Emergency Planning efforts:</td>
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- New designation as “COVID-Affiliate” includes new money to coordinate COVID response, allowing COG as a whole to
  - Convene monthly “BOH Exchanges” for LBOH to discuss COVID response, receive some education on PH topics that MAPHCO staff can’t work on, and then provide a time for networking.
  - Hold joint meetings with LBOH, EMDs, public safety, elected officials, etc. to keep EP work coordinated at a county level. Multi-disciplinary teams will be encouraged at the local and EDS level.
  - Same principle as our hiring an EP planner, not a PHEP planner—COG staff work together to be flexible to meet the needs of LBOH
  - MAPHCO SC meetings can return to steering the preparedness work for the region

Members agreed to moving forward with this plan.

6) Wrap up and adjourn

Bird moved to adjourn the meeting, Gibson seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM. The next meeting will be held on August 4th, 2020.

Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed:

- Agenda
- DRAFT Minutes of July 7, 2020 Meeting
- Farmworker resource memo
- BP2 EDS supply allotment memo
- CDC risk messages