



Meeting Minutes: Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition Steering Committee			
Date	August 16, 2021	Location	CONFERENCE CALL
		Call-In Number	(929) 436-2866
		Meeting ID	863 7435 4440
		Passcode	896946
Time	4:30-6:00 PM	Video	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86374354440?pwd=dWRodHVrTEIMZEZrWFV1WXBVMFB6QT09
		Facilitator:	Carolyn Shores Ness & Norene Pease, Co-Chairs
		Cancellation Notice	413-465-3167 x155

<p>ATTENDEES: Duncan Colter, Ashfield BOH John Hillman, Leverett BOH Betsy Kovacs, Heath BOH Nina Martin-Anzuoni, Colrain BOH Carolyn Shores Ness, Deerfield BOH Norene Pease, Shutesbury BOH Dan Wasiuk, Montague Health Director Melanie Zamojski, Montague BOH Barbara Gordon, Heath BOH</p> <p>ABSENT:</p>	<p>GUESTS: Carmela Lanza-Weil, Berkshire and Franklin Medical Reserve Corps</p> <p>FRCOG STAFF: Tracy Rogers; Lauri Solomon, Lisa White</p>
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Agenda Items	
1. Welcoming remarks/ introductions/agenda	Called to order by Carolyn at 4:30 PM
2. Review/approval of past meeting minutes	Passed Unanimously by Zamojski, Jean, Colter, Martin-Anzuoni, Gordon, abstained because she is not a voting member.
3. Old business a) COVID Update b) Deliverables update	a. COVID Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solomon: Added this as a standing update. CDC made a recommendation that people who have compromised immune

	<p>systems should get a third vaccine. The state is trickling down that information but has not yet made its own planning recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zamojski: Excluding Sunderland and Montague, total of 13 new cases in Franklin County and 11 contacts. Tick diseases are being less reported. Half the cases are vaccinated so the assumption is that it's the Delta variant. <p>b. Deliverables Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will cover the only sustentative update in the After Action Report Update
<p>4. New business a) COVID After Action Report Update</p>	<p>a. New Business: Solomon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the Frontier, Shutesbury, and Leverett focus groups. An extra interview happened in Frontier with Zach Smith (Deerfield EMS) and Michael Archibald (Whately BOH). That interview also generated good but slightly different input than the main focus group. The interview transcription took four hours to transcribe, which did not include coding or analysis. • A Survey Monkey will go out asking participants how they felt the focus group went and if they felt the right questions were asked. • The Shutesbury interview was two hours long. A second interview with BOH member, Garret Simonsen is scheduled 8/17. • The After Action Conference (AAC) invitation has been drafted. Hybrid meeting with in-person in John Olver conference room at Transit building. Masks will be required. • It is expected that each EDS will get a bulleted list of comments for each of the topic areas that were covered. Themes will be highlighted, which will look different for the traditional AAR format. The major themes will be collated and discussed at the AAC. • Already some themes are emerging e.g. in two interviews, what is considered the EDS is unclear. There are entities participating in the COVID response that did not fall under the EDS umbrella. Those efforts fall under the topic areas explored such as providing COVID risk messaging. • It is estimated each focus group or interview takes 3-4 full days of work to complete. • Pease clarified who had been scheduled, acknowledge the time it takes to do the transcription and analysis, appreciated EDS members on scheduling and participating given the tight timeline. She ask if anyone else is concerned about the tight AAC timeline. • Marin-Anzuon suggested delaying the AAC in order to have a more complete analysis of the data. • Kovacs suggested using a transcription service to reduce the time needed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solomon explained that a transcription would be quicker but watching the interviews back is still part of the process of analysis. • Carmela Lanza-Weil shared an online automated transcription service, which Solomon will investigate. • Kovacs suggested putting off the date of the AAC. • Pease agreed that all data needs to be included and that she's happy focus groups are scheduled. • Martin-Anzuoni also thought the AAC should be postponed so solid data can be discussed. • Kovacs said if it goes any later, people will forget what happened. • Solomon reminded the group that the focus groups will be finished when Hawlemont's is done in early September. Regardless of the date of the AAC, no one will need to remember what happened longer than the date their focus group is scheduled for. • Rogers suggested that the AAC be moved to the October monthly MAPHCO meeting date. • Shores Ness said they need lessons learned by expected surge and <12 vaccine clinics. • The new AAC date is scheduled for October 18th. • Martin-Anzuoni announced that she can no longer be the MAPHCO representative because she's starting a new job and has to work Monday evenings. She will seek out someone else from the EDS to attend. • Pease said the Shutesbury's focus group helped remind her of things that happened. She encouraged people to look at the questions ahead of time and make some notes like she did because it was really helpful in capturing what happened. She was able to remind her team of some things they had forgotten.
<p>5. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shores Ness asked if everyone's boards of health are voting to mandate masks in their schools systems. • Martin-Anzuoni said she believes Mohawk's school district has already mandated it • Shores Ness said she didn't think it was legal unless the BOH voted to do it per MGL 111, section 104. • Martin-Anzuoni said she's not sure and that since it's a regional school district, one of the towns may have done that. She'll check with the Superintendent. Another issue the BOH is considering is a mask mandate in the town's two businesses. Municipal buildings already have a mask mandate. • Shores Ness clarified that the BOH for the town that a school is physically in makes the determination of a mask mandate. The Deerfield BOH will be meeting to make mask and social distancing recommendations to their schools. Each of the feeder towns to the Frontier Regional SD will make decisions for the schools in their towns. Sunderland and Whately will have a quorum at their BOH meeting and are expected to also continue the recommendations

	<p>made in the spring. Conway may not have a quorum and will vote at a later date. If a town does not vote with the majority, they can only control the school in their town not the regional school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin-Anzuoni says they own the buildings but not the process. • Shores Ness thinks that each district may be unique in that way. • Zamojski said the Montague BOH will be meeting to discuss the issue. The superintendent and the school nurse wish to go in the direction of masking. • Chief Wonkka says said that the governor’s office said decisions about school masking were up to the school district, which he heard on 22 News. The teachers’ unions are pushing for it. Masking for unvaccinated people is highly recommended for unvaccinated people. • Shores Ness said the BOH has to vote on it for it to stand up in court. • Kovacs said she is resigning from the BOH. She introduced Barbara Gordon as a new member of the BOH and Gene Garlin who will be elected chair of the BOH. He is getting a doctorate in health communication at UMass where he is currently teaching. • Rogers clarified that someone will have to be named the official MAPHCO representative from Hawlemont. • Shores Ness asked for an MCC update • Rogers reported that COVID cases are picking up in the other 5 HMCC regions. They are starting to meet 1-2 times weekly by phone to talk about surge planning. The WMass HMCC has asked regional hospitals if they would like to start checking in weekly again. • MAPHCO has lots of PPE in two sites in Greenfield so if anyone needs some, those assets can be requested of the Emergency Preparedness Planning program. • The HMCC also has a lot of PPE. • Chief Wonkka shared that Irving has an abundance to share as well. He also said towns could reach out to their local fire departments as well because MEMA supplied a lot to everyone.
6. Wrap up and adjourn	a. Pease moved to adjourn the meeting, Martin-Anzuoni seconded the motion. Wasiuk, Colter, Kovacs, Hillman, and Shores Ness voted in favor.
Documents Distributed / Presentations Viewed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda • DRAFT Minutes of August 14, 2021 Meeting