**Region 4AB Public Health Emergency Preparedness**

*Acton*

*Arlington*

*Ashland*

*Bedford*

*Belmont*

*Boxborough*

*Braintree*

*Brookline*

*Burlington*

*Cambridge*

*Canton*

*Carlisle*

*Chelsea*

*Cohasset*

*Concord*

*Dedham*

*Dover*

*Everett*

*Framingham*

*Hanover*

*Hingham*

*Holliston*

*Hopkinton*

*Hudson*

*Hull*

*Lexington*

*Lincoln*

*Littleton*

*Marlborough*

*Maynard*

*Medfield*

*Millis*

*Milton*

*Natick*

*Needham*

*Newton*

*Norfolk*

*Norwell*

*Norwood*

*Quincy*

*Revere*

*Scituate*

*Sharon*

*Sherborn*

*Somerville*

*Southborough*

*Stow*

*Sudbury*

*Walpole*

*Waltham*

*Watertown*

*Wayland*

*Wellesley*

*Weston*

*Westwood*

*Weymouth*

*Winchester*

*Winthrop*

*Woburn*

*Wrentham*

**General Coalition Meeting Minutes**

**June 3, 2021**

**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Webex Video Conference**

**Attendees:**  Sheryl Ball (Acton), Natasha Waden (Arlington), Rajit Gupta (Ashland), Diana Ekman (Belmont), Susan Lumenello (Burlington), Nancy Rihan-Porter(Cambridge), James Goodrich (Canton), Linda Fantasia (Carlisle), Kris Gines (Carlisle), Flor Amaya (Chelsea), Jessica Tracy (Dedham), Gerald Clarke (Dover), Kitty Mahoney (Framingham), Kim Dixon (Hanover), Nancy Funder (Hanover), Casey Mellin (Lexington), Caroline Kinsella (Millis), Timothy McDonald (Needham), Tiffany Zike (Needham) Shin Yi Lao (Newton), Stacey Lane (Norwood), Marli Caselli (Quincy), Lauren Buck (Revere), Ellen Hartnett (Sherborn), Doug Kress (Somerville), Taylor West (Southborough), Heather Alker (Southborough), Emily Amico (Sudbury), Bill Murphy (Sudbury), Wil Van Dinter (Watertown), Larry Ramdin (Watertown), Ruth Mori (Wayland), Cheryl Leffman, Meredith Hurley, Lauren Hewitt (Wrentham), Roberta Ho (4a MRC Coord.), Caeli Tegan, Karen Contador (NC-8), Lauren Ward (DPH), Jendy Dunlop (MRPC), Garrett Simonsen (Regional Planner), Steven Mauzy (Regional Planner) Kari Sasportas (MRPC), Lindsay Sharp (intern), Nina Shields (MetroEast MRC), Taleb Abdelrahim, Caeli Tegan, and Katie Capobianco, PHEP Assistant

Wil opened the meeting at 10:05 am.

**Approval of May 13, 2021 GC Meeting Minutes**

Tim made a motion seconded by Doug to approve the May 13, 2021 GC meeting minutes as amended – motion approved.

**BP2 Wrap Up**

Jendy advised that the regional purchase of the tablets is complete and she is working with the Planners to distribute the 75 tablets that were ordered for the communities that responded to the survey. The vests have been purchased and received.

Garrett advised that communities can get a maximum of 6 A frames. If a community received previous regional purchase A frames they can only get up to six A frames in total. The A frames have shipped directly to communities. The signs include carry cases and the Planners will do direct delivery to communities in June/July.

Jendy advised that there will be some funds left over due to returns but she did not have the final figure yet. Less money was returned this year than in years prior.

**Finance Committee**

Doug will remain as Chair for the FC. Rajit Gupta will join the FC and the remaining members are Linda Fantasia, Sigalle, Tim McDonald, and Linda Callen.

**Workplan Updates**

Garrett advised that half of the communities have completed their EDS plan updates. Steven said that he has received half of the documentation from communities on ICS training for staff. He requested that communities send in their updated training plans.

**BP3 Status**

Garret advised that there will be an AAR Conference related to COVID and an IPP specific to UASI communities. He said he would like to develop resources for non-UASI communities to use.

Steven said that regarding the AAR Conference, communities can either do EDS drills or participate in the AAR Conference. UASI communities are required to attend. The hope is to hold the conference between October and December of 2021. If there are any topics you would like to see covered, please email Garrett or Steven.

Larry said he would like to see the local health department role in COVID 19 in state guidance. Environmental health was involved in the response and he would like to explore including environmental health in future responses.

Doug suggested a potential topic on how funding streams were pushed out and used; past and future.

Garrett advised that the project on Jurisdictional Risk Assessment (JRA) for the UASI communities is coming up on its five year requirement. The timeline for completion is between January and March 2022. Garrett said they will also develop guide/templates for other communities to conduct their own risk assessment.

Garrett advised that part of the RFP put out by CHA is the Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) required for UASI communities. It is a strategic plan as opposed to a response plan. The timeline for this April to June 2022 and templates will be available to other communities to use.

Steven said that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) will include a new template that is customizable. It will be a facility operation guide for EDS or emergency shelters that will include drive thrus. The timeline is January to June 2022.

**MRC Updates**

Roberta advised that there are 1569 volunteers in MAResponds for Region 4B. Of those 1569, they have approved 185 since 3/2020 and sent badges to 270 volunteers. There are 1299 accounts pending in MAResponds and she is currently researching 46 old accounts. Roberta advised that Region 4B volunteers have been participating at regional clinics. She receives the information from Kristin Blake, Northboro Health Agent, and has sent volunteers. Wil stated that he is concerned that PHEP money is going out of our region to support other regions. Roberta replied that no money is involved as the volunteers do not get paid. Wil clarified that Region 4B MRC requests PHEP money to strengthen this region, not other regions. Tim suggested to table and discuss this matter at the next meeting.

Nina advised that MetroEast has 1437 accepted volunteers who have completed Coris and are credentialed. Nina advised volunteers have participated at 70 clinics for a total of 2000 hours. Nina said she is leaving her positon in mid-July. She said that 281 volunteers attended a total of four trainings held by MetroEast.

Katie advised that the Burlington MRC has added 165 credentialed volunteers since 3/2020 doubling the volunteer count to 330. All have been credentialed, issued a badge and are in the process of taking MRC 101, ICS 100 and NIMS 700. The BVRC held eight COVID clinics giving out 535 first doses and 557 second doses. During COVID, 80 volunteers volunteered for over 1284 hours on COVID related matters with an economic impact of $53,549. The BVRC continued to hold virtual trainings for the volunteers including MRC 101, Pet First Aid, Pet sheltering, and Equity Training.

**DPH**

Lauren said information was sent out on SWN for West Nile Virus and EEE. Liz will be out on maternity leave until the end of September. Lauren is covering for her and can be reached at lauren.ward@mass.gov, 781-223-0405.

**HMCC**

Jendy advised that the MRPC Stakeholder meetings are being reinstated and will be virtual for the time being.

**New Business**

Wil said that EC and GC meetings will be held virtually until August or September and in-person meetings will hopefully be held starting in October.

Larry would like a community discussion added to the 8/18/021 GC meeting on priorities for public health in particular environmental health preparedness and response.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:23 am.