**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**

**November 9, 2022**

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

**Via Zoom**

**Attendees:** Felix Garcia (Acton), Jessica Kerr (Arlington), Natasha Waden (Arlington), Rajit Gupta (Ashland), Julie Genova (Bedford), David Neylon (Belmont), Sara Schaffer (Brookline), Mike Greene (Burlington), Nancy Rihan-Porter (Cambridge), James Goodrich (Canton), Kris Gines (Carlisle), Flor Amaya (Chelsea), Sabrina Firicanco (Everett), Scott Moles (Holliston), Lauren Antonelli (Hudson), Donna Boule (Hudson), Joanne Belanger (Lexington), John Garside (Marlborough), Elizabeth Elkind (Marlborough), Sheila Lucia (Marlborough), Brenda Healy (Medfield), John McVeigh (Millis), Laura DelleChiaie (Milton), Mike Boudreau (Natick), Timothy McDonald (Needham), Shin-Yi Lao (Newton), Matt Tanis (Norfolk/Wrentham), Abbie Atkins (Norwood), So Sopheaksoksandy (Quincy), Lauren Buck (Revere), Ellen Hartnett (Sherborn), Karin Carroll (Somerville), Emily Amico (Sudbury), Melissa Ranieri (Walpole), Larry Ramdin (Watertown), Shuang Shen (Watertown), Kelly Pawlouzonek (Weston), Jen Murphy (Winchester), Karen DeCampo (Winchester), Alyson Roche (Woburn), Lizzy Ferrara (NC-8), Garrett Simonsen (Regional Planner), Steven Mauzy (Regional Planner), Kerry Dunnell (MRPC), Mia Nardini (MRPC), Liz Foley (DPH), and Katie Capobianco (PHEP Assistant)

Tim opened the meeting at 10:09 am.

**Approval of October 12, 2022 GC Meeting Minutes**

Shin-Yi made a motion, seconded by Nancy, to approve the October 12, 2022, GC meeting minutes – motion approved.

**Finance Committee -CLRs**

Kerry advised that the Budget Modification has not gone in yet.

**HMCC Updates**

Kerry advised that the next Stakeholder’s Meeting will be held virtually on December 14th with a topic of hurricane response and mutual aid.

Kerry advised that Katie sent out the cell phone contracts this week and reminded the GC that they should add cell phones to their budget for next year as PHEP will no longer be funding cell phones. They are still working on hiring staff for the positions of Training and Exercise, Resource Management, and Health Equity Initiatives.

**DPH Updates**

Liz advised that they finished the Quarterly Reporting, and it has been submitted and approved. There was no Quarter 1 HHAN or WebEOC drill. There will be a Quarter 2 HHAN and WebEOC drill.

Please reach out to Liz if you need assistance with WebEOC or HHAN access.

Regarding PHEP Deliverables, there is $15K for an equity project in addition to the normal budget. This funding will be used to integrate health equity within the region and DPH is currently putting together a one-page information sheet as to what it will look like. This should be completed within the next week.

DPH is continuing to support hospitals around capacity and response regarding ICU and pediatric bed shortages. There was a Webinar last week regarding the recent Ebola outbreak in Uganda.

**Planner Updates**

Garrett gave a presentation on Revising the Concepts of Operations for Medical Counter Measure Emergencies based on lessons learned from COVID-19. Garrett said the Concept of Operations should be revised based on changing scenarios. Based on lessons learned during COVID, the evaluation process has changed, and the system and workforce has changed. Garrett outlined the following six steps to come up with a reasonable revision:

Step1 – Planning Scenarios

Step 2 - Impact Assessments

Step 3 – Planning Targets

Step 4 – Planning Assumptions

Step 5 – Planning Environment

Step 6 – Integration/Synchronization

Nancy questioned how this is going to be used given it is a lot of work and LBOHs were not used during the pandemic. Garrett advised that local EDS plans remain useful for a medical emergency response but the scenarios have changed.

Steven advised that Coll Consulting is onboard again to develop a full spectrum of training on risk communication that will include a workshop, training and exercise, tabletop exercise and a drill.

The Environmental Work Group will resume regular meetings this month to discuss air quality education, and develop plans, resources, and fact sheets for water, sanitation and hygiene emergencies

**MRC Updates**

NC-8 – Lizzy commented that under the NACCHO Rise grant they recently trained 11 Mental Health First Aid Trainers. Regarding the mental health first aid initiative, NC-8 will be applying for an extension and will be offering the classes in the spring and are applying for an additional $17K. They are also applying for a NACCHO award grant of $10K to improve MRC initiatives.

MetroEast – Natasha advised that they submitted their Quarter 1 report to the state. They are still doing deployments. Send Natasha an email if volunteers are needed for any events within MetroEast. They are currently waiting for the coordinator position to be filled.

4A MRC- Emily advised that she is part of the 4A reconstruction team and the 31 communities are breaking into three new MRC Units. They are in the process of applying for federal recognition and CHA will be the programmatic lead. The three new MRC units will be Central Middlesex, MetroWest, and Middlefork. All three part time coordinators have been hired and are just waiting for their contract approval. Their Quarter 1 report has been submitted.

Burlington MRC- Mike advised that the BVRC has been holding a lot of trainings. There are multiple trainings to be held that are being offered through the Rise Grant they received. Future trainings include Autism/Asperger Awareness, First Aid and Bloodborne Pathogens and STB training and train the trainer. The BVRC applied for and was approved to offer CEUs to eligible medical personnel for certain trainings. Burlington will be participating with Lexington and Wilmington in a Shared Services grant. Their Quarter 1 report has been submitted.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

Natasha made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim - motion approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:21.