

General Committee Meeting

November 29, 2023

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendance

Natasha Waden (Arlington), Rajit Gupta (Ashland), Sara Schaffer (Brookline), Mike Greene (Burlington), Nancy Porter (Cambridge), James Goodrich (Canton), Melanie Dineen and Moira Carter (Concord), Kylee Sullivan (Dedham), Sabrina Firicano & Krista Costello (Everett), Bill Murphy (Framingham), Scott Moles (Holliston), Shaun McAuliffe, Simone Carter (Hopkinton), Lauren Antonelli (Hudson), Joanne Belanger and Alicia McCartin (Lexington), Paul Dinwoodie (Marlborough), Maynard Board of Health, Brenda Healy (Medfield), John McVeigh (Millis), Caroline Kinsella (Milton), Tim McDonald, Ginnie Chacon-Lopez, and Tiffany Benoit (Needham), Shin-Yi Lao (Newton), Matt Tanis (Norfolk and Wrentham), Abbie Atkins and Stacey Lane (Norwood), Adrienne Maguire (Revere), Vivian Zeng (Sudbury), Shaung Shen (Watertown), Julia Junghanns (Wayland), Kelly Melissa Reniri (Walpole), Abbey Myers and Shuang Shen (Watertown), Julia Junghanns and Michele Schuckel (Wayland), Kelly Pawluczonek (Weston), Alyson Roche and Meghan Doherty (Woburn), Josh Tallman (MetroEast MRC), Shelia Dibb (Middlefolk MRC), Emily Amico (MetroWest), Caeli Tegan Zampach (NC-8 MRC), Liz Foley (MDPH OPEM), Garrett Simonsen and Steven Mauzy (4AB PHEP)

Meeting Minutes

- Nancy Porter (Cambridge) opened the meeting at 10:02 am.

I. Approval of November 1st GC Meeting Minutes

- Joanne (Lexington) made a motion, seconded by Melissa (Walpole), to approve the meeting minutes – motion approved.

II. HMCC Updates (Garrett Simonsen, PHEP Planner)

- Garrett updated that the next HMCC Stakeholder meeting will be Wednesday, December 6th in Needham from 11 am to 2 pm, and will bring the disciplines together to discuss progress and changes over the course of the cooperative agreement, BP5 goals, and interdisciplinary best practices.
- The budget modification, which reallocated additional funds to the Extreme Temperatures project and conference travel funding for NACCHO Preparedness Summit, has been submitted and is under review with MDPH OPEM.
- Garrett updated that Kerry finalized the posting for a regional MRC coordinator to support all unit coordinators. The draft is with CHA Human Resources for finalization before posting. This role will be an employee of CHA and oversee and support all 4AB MRC units. The

MetroWest coordinator position has also been posted. This position is contracted to support the single unit.

- Garrett updated that responses to the RFP on Extreme Temperatures Health Planning are due December 8th. The selected vendor will be discussed at next month's meeting. Once all proposals are in, staff will create a side-by-side comparison for the Executive Committee to review before making a decision.

III. Planner Updates (*Steven Mauzy, PHEP Planners*)

- Steven updated that this quarter's 24/7 contact update will be combined with this year's ICS training update. Both are deliverables, and emails will go out at the week's end; responses are due 12/15.
- The final day to indicate interest in attending the NACCHO Preparedness Summit, which will be held in Cleveland in mid-March, is Friday, 12/8.

IV. DPH Updates (*Liz Foley, MDPH OPEM*)

- Liz updated that MDPH continues supporting vaccination efforts at work authorization clinics; in the first week, nurses saw over 400 people and provided 580+ flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Budget modifications are being reviewed. Given the high capacity, the state continues to support the hospitals with load balancing, respiratory illness data, and helping hospitals think through throughput. OPEM staff have been participating in several exercises recently, including testing the EOP in a tabletop and participating in exercises on chemical and radiation surges. In MRC news, the state received a grant from ASPR for additional training and unit support.

V. PHEP Funding for Emergency Assistance Family Sheltering (*Garrett Simonsen*)

- Garrett introduced Shaun (Hopkinton), who has offered support through an intern for communities supporting Emergency Assistance Shelters. Shaun and his intern contacted all 18 communities supporting shelters for a list of needs. The Hopkinton pantry has supplied cold-weather gear, clothing, footwear, and backpacks. Shaun is trying to secure strollers, including double strollers. Hopkinton has also been working with Stop & Shop Corporate. Stop & Shop is not providing support at the corporate level but has asked that communities supporting shelters reach out to local branches to inquire about supporting needs. Shaun's intern will be available for about six months, and communities should feel free to reach out with needs. Shaun discussed how using a recovery mindset can help when meeting needs. Such a mindset means contacting local businesses, grocery stores, etc., to inquire about products that will be thrown away but are still usable. Joanne (Lexington) inquired if anyone has resources for business clothes that individuals can wear to immigration or professional appointments.

VI. MRC Updates

- Josh (MetroEast MRC) introduced himself as the new MetroEast coordinator. The unit is working on building out a work plan for the next year and on grant applications. Emily (MetroWest MRC) is supporting the unit until the position is filled. Shelia (Central Middlesex MRC) updated that the unit has supported local vaccination efforts as well as a local shelter. Central Middlesex is also applying for grants and developing a training plan. Sara (Brookline MRC) updated that the unit has wrapped up their homebound vaccination efforts and will be hosting a pop-up clinic to use the rest of the vaccine. Caeli (NC-8 MRC) has been assisting in local flu vaccination clinics and is lining up more trainings in the coming months, such as Stop the Bleed. Mike (Burlington MRC) wrapped up flu vaccine clinics and is updating volunteer contacts post-COVID. Burlington is hosting a robust number of trainings in the new year.

VII. New Business

- Nancy opened the floor for discussion about the vacant EC seat. Tim (Needham) nominated Vivian Zeng (Sudbury), and Melissa (Walpole) seconded.

VIII. Vote and Adjourn

- Melissa (Walpole) motioned to adjourn at 4:16 pm; James (Canton) seconded that motion. All communities voted in favor of the minutes, to fill the vacant EC seat with Vivian, and to adjourn. Kelly (Weston) abstained from voting on the minutes as she was not present at the last meeting.