



General Committee Meeting

May 27, 2026

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendance

Rajit Gupta (Ashland), Heidi Porter (Bedford), Sara Schaffer (Brookline), Nancy Porter (Cambridge), Katie Stanislawzyk (Concord), Gael Varsa (Dover), Krista Costello (Everett), Bill Murphy (Framingham), Shaun McAuliffe & Simone Carter (Hopkinton), Lauren Antonelli (Hudson), Alicia McCartin (Lexington), Francis Dagle (Littleton), Paige Ferriter (Marlborough), John McVeigh (Millis), Jessica Cliff (Natick), Tim McDonald, Julie McCarthy & Ginnie Chacon-Lopez (Needham), Lisa Heyer (Newton), Jae Cho (Quincy), Adrienne Maguire (Revere), Linda Callan (Sharon), Taylor West (Southborough), Katie Betts (Sudbury), Melissa Reniri (Walpole), Jhana Wallace (Wellesley), Kelly Pawluczzonek (Weston), Karen DaCampo (Winchester), Eric Olsen, Jackson Lieb, Lois Luniewicz, Luca Miller, Jackson Leib, Michaela Bucca (MRC), Kerry Clark & Teri Clover (MRPC), Garrett Simonsen & Steven Mauzy (4AB PHEP)

Meeting Minutes

- Shaun McAuliffe (Hopkinton) opened the meeting at 10:02 am.

I. Approval of April 28th GC Meeting Minutes

- Nancy (Cambridge) made a motion, seconded by Taylor (Southborough), to accept the meeting minutes – motion approved.

II. HMCC Updates

- The meeting began with budget updates from Kerry, where he reported that Quarter 3 reports and budget modifications received state approval. Kerry noted that equipment and training requests needed to be submitted by May 15th to allow time for DPH approval and vendor establishment before the deadline.

III. Planner Updates

- Garrett (PHEP) reported successful completion of this year's project on Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication. On May 7th, we held the Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication workshop that we contracted with Eliza Call to help support that workshop. The workshop was held in Burlington and had about 25 participants. Garrett noted this was not as many as we'd hoped for, but there were other conflicting meetings that day. The workshop covered updates that were made to the Coalition's local public health CERC template and a regional overlay to that template. This workshop discussed how local public health can engage the region around supporting risk communication, particularly in events that impact multiple communities. The workshop was also used to run through some exercises together; in



particular, looking at rumor management and mis- and disinformation. All of this work will feed into one of the priority areas for Budget Period 3, starting in July.

- Garrett reported on quarterly drill completion rates and 24-7 update compliance, noting 90% completion for drills and nearly 80% for updates.
- Nancy (Cambridge) expressed concerns about the recent drill's preparedness issues, including a broken link in the HHAN message that was quickly corrected. The team discussed the need to consolidate notification lists and ensure accurate contact information is maintained in WebEOC.
- Garrett announced that DPH is reviewing priority area narratives and draft budgets, with feedback expected by the June meeting.

IV. LSAC Updates

- Tim (Needham) provided updates on the LSAC meeting, where Commissioner Robbie Goldstein discussed challenges with state preparedness funding, which currently only meets federal match requirements for CDC grants. The commissioner mentioned ongoing efforts to simplify contracting processes and secure funding for local public health, with potential changes expected in 18-24 months.

V. MRC Updates

- The meeting focused on discussing a recent shelter training exercise conducted in Walpole, which involved 9-10 organizations and 45 people. Eric (MRC) highlighted three key lessons learned: the importance of practicing incident command systems, the need to carefully consider role assignments rather than filling positions based on availability, and the requirement for more volunteers than anticipated for setup and breakdown.
- Melissa (Walpole) and Jackson (MRC) shared their experiences from the exercise, noting that while forms had been prepared in advance, they needed revision after seeing how the forms functioned in practice. They also noted that the setup process was more complex and time-consuming than expected.
- Nancy expressed interest in potentially conducting similar training in Cambridge, particularly in relation to developing shelter-in-place protocols for active threat situations, and requested information about the forms used in Walpole.

VI. New Business

- Nancy presented Cambridge's planning efforts for FIFA World Cup watch parties, outlining surveillance monitoring plans, hotel communications, and resource preparation. She expressed concerns about the short notice and lack of coordination with city departments, and requested MRC support for potential deployments across multiple planned parties. Jackson confirmed that MRC would reach out to support Nancy's efforts.



VII. Vote and Adjourn

- Melissa (Walpole) motioned to adjourn; Nancy (Cambridge) seconded that motion. Motions to approve the minutes and to adjourn passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.