

Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative

Serving the Towns of Alford, Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Monterey, Mount Washington, New Marlborough, Otis, Sheffield, and Stockbridge

September 17, 2021 Monthly Meeting minutes (Prepared by Jayne Smith)

9:00 AM Via Remote Zoom

Present: Jim Wilusz (Tritown); Pat Levine & Martin Mitsoff (Sheffield); Diane Romeo (Lee); Rebecca Jurczyk (Great Barrington); Scott McFarland (New Marlborough) Ellie Lovejoy (Mt. Washington); Jayne Smith (Alford); Amy Hardt (SBPHC); Clarence Fanto (Berkshire Eagle); John Krol (180 Media)

Action Item updates

a. **Nomination of Chair, Vice Chair**

Agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair will be chosen on a rotating cycle

Chair: Rebecca Jurczyk nominated Pat Levine as Chair, Ellie Lovejoy seconded. Nomination accepted as long as it is just a year. Motion adopted unanimously.

Vice Chair: Pat Levine nominated Rebecca Jurczyk as Vice Chair, Ellie Lovejoy seconded. Nomination accepted and adopted unanimously.

b. **Review and Approve August 13, 2021 Minutes-** Pat Levine: Motion to accept, Ellie Lovejoy seconded, Minutes approved as submitted unanimously.

2. Grant updates

a. **Branding/Logo: Guest Consultant -John Krol 180 Media- branding/logo**

John Krol reviewed the process with the group. Typically, the designer collects input to create 3 different logo concepts that the larger group then considers to create final logo.

Mission Statement/Values: Group discussed what their view of our values/mission statement. Concepts such as building together, teamwork, strengthening each other, empowering each other, collaborate, we are stronger together, creating a healthy future, health for all.

HOMEWORK: Mission statement and values will be an agenda item for October 8th meeting. It was asked that the group think about the group's values and propose a draft mission statement to share as base for the next meeting.

b. **SBPHC Workplan Update**

Subgroup reviewed draft work plan and we are now waiting to get the template from DPH. There has been an addition of a social equity component to all the goals to ensure that we are reaching all. The current rough draft includes items under

1. Policy/Administration
2. Workforce Training
3. Clinical Nursing
4. Sustainability

The work plan will act as a guide to focus our efforts. We have already done a lot of the work, just two months in.

HOMEWORK: In the next two weeks, please look at draft work plan and send to Jim color coded comments so he can incorporate suggestions/changes prior to next regular meeting.

c. [FDA Grant Opportunity](#) for Individual Towns

d. **ARPA: [Request](#) for \$250.9M ARPA Money to be applied to Local Infrastructure**

Jayne thanked members who had already signed the ARPA letter and redistributed link and asked that others sign on and encourage their leadership to do the same.

3. **Training Opportunities**

- a. **Social Equity:** [Getting' By Facilitated Game](#) an option for us a foundation for incorporating social equity into our efforts.
- b. **Hoarding Training:** [Mutual Support Consulting](#) provides several layers of support, including:
 - Group training- we could try to schedule in Winter when we have space
 - Individual BOH coaching- on understanding what is going on with individual cases and crafting a response that makes sense for that specific situation
- c. **LPHI Training Modules:** Available to BOH on various subjects and we should look at encouraging ongoing training through modules.

4. **PHN Updates**

- a. **[COVID Updates/Dashboard](#):** PHN program continue to provide weekly dashboards to towns. They are getting a lot of views and positive feedback.
- b. **Schools:** PHN have developed resource documents to be used by the schools and will continue to work with superintendents to ensure that information is clear, fact-based and fulfill standard practices.
- c. **Abbott BinaxNOW Testing:** PHN are working through process to
- d. **Flu Vaccination Program:** Flu clinics will start next week and will be targeted for seniors and municipal employees. COVID vaccines will also be available. CPH currently does not have free vaccines to do school-based clinics for the current year and Fairview will be doing school-based clinics.

Car Seats: Jill is currently getting training on car seat installation

Chokesaver: Amy has a contact and will work with towns to schedule fall trainings

5. **IMA Update**

A major next step is to further develop our IMA so we can get it out to members Boards of Health and Select Boards to review and accept. Cheryl Sbarra is willing to come out and work with us on this.

6. **Mentorship/Training thoughts**

- a. **[Academic Public Health Corp](#):** Connecting public health students and LBOH. Jayne can get more information out to the group if we feel there is an appropriate project for this group.

Masking Directive:

Discussion regarding different mask directives passed by towns. There have been some lessons learned from the early directives, and so towns are encouraged to try to tweak their own directives, if possible, to avoid pitfalls. Many organizations have chosen to just cancel or scale down events on their own realizing that it is just generally a bad idea to have a large event during this point in the pandemic. We need to just keep getting out good information out there to combat the secondary war on information.

7. **Next Meeting Focus/Date:** Next meeting is scheduled for October 8th and focus on both the value/mission statement and the work plan.