



Meeting Minutes: Medical Reserve Corps Advisory Group (MAG)			
<b>Date</b>	November 1, 2016	<b>Location</b>	Dept. of Public Health 23 Service Center Rd Northampton, MA
<b>Time</b>	9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Duration</b>	1.5 Hours
		<b>Facilitator</b>	Tracy Rogers
		<b>Call In #</b>	
		<b>Access code</b>	

<b>Attendees:</b> Mary Kersell, Sandra Martin, Lois Luniewicz, Allison Hope, Tracy Rogers, Michael Nelson, Corinne McKeown	
Meeting called to order at 9:43am.	
1. Review/approval of September 6, 2016 meeting minutes – Sandra made a motion to approve, Mary seconded. All in favor.	
2. Old business	
<p><b>Sheltering Residents with Substance Dependency</b> – <i>Loren submitted this report via email:</i> We have made a number of connections with area service providers to develop relationships, inform people about our grant, and identify needs. We will also be partnering with the UMass Nursing Program and some students will be involved with helping us develop our grant project next semester. We have reached out to several speakers and are working to lock down a date for the training this spring. We also completed and submitted our required grant report. We are pleased with the progress we have made and are excited about the work we are doing. We are certain that this is time well spent since we have never considered this group before in our shelter/emergency planning process. What we are finding is that the SOP's and information we are learning/incorporating will actually benefit everyone (not just residents with substance dependency issues) and will make our shelters better prepared for everyone in an emergency.</p> <p><b>Regionalization strategy</b> – Tracy reported that Franklin County MRC held a team meeting last week. Fifteen people attended. Robert will be working on some exercises for them this year. Volunteers in attendance reported they were not interested in doing first aid at community events. Lois said that some of her units are in discussion about regionalizing. <i>Loren reported the following via email:</i> I have spoken to Robert Quinn-O'Conner and let him know that I'm willing to help the Franklin County MRC any way that I can, if needed. He told me that he will be holding his monthly MRC meeting on Oct. 24th and plans to ask the volunteers what they would like to see happen with the unit. (Reinvigorate the existing unit, join with Hampshire or possibly Berkshire, or disband all together). If the unit is interested in joining with Hampshire County, I did offer to attend their next meeting to meet the volunteers and hear what more about how they would like to be involved. I know that Lois and Corrine are also willing to do the same. If we do decided that joining Hampshire/Franklin is best, then we would need to sit down and talk more about the specific needs and expectations of the unit. The unit is currently run a little differently than Hampshire County, for example, with a CERT component so I'd like to talk in more detail about how it would work and ensure that Franklin County is covered in an emergency.</p>	
3. New business	
<p>a. NACCHO 2016 competitive grant – Lois reported that a few units in Hampden County may be applying. They are looking to create partnerships with colleges and hospitals. There was discussion about the need for creating those partnerships regionally, as well as with COADs. It sounded like there were three different projects going around. Sandra commented that a regional project is a lot of work. Mary said we are more likely to get approved for a project if we do a regional. Folks will continue to talk offline about projects.</p>	
4. Member reports	
<p>a. MAG budget update – No updates</p> <p>b. Website status – Corinne reported the website was hacked again. She was able to solve the issue with tech support.</p> <p>c. County coordinator reports -</p> <p>Berkshire County: Corinne reported that an MRC volunteer will be assisting with a cluster of TB cases in her re-</p>	

gion.

Hampden County: Lois reported a MA Responds Mission Manager training on November 10 is coming.

*Loren shared her report via email:*

Northampton/South Hadley/Granby: We are working on creating a Home Safety Training for community members and existing volunteers. We have found that offering helpful and informative trainings is actually a much better recruitment tool than just having a table at public events. We will talk about Medication Safety, Home Safety, Fire Safety, and Emergency Dispatch. Wednesday, Dec 7th 11am Northampton Senior Center. (This program is easy to replicate if other communities are interested in offering it in their communities. Please feel free to reach out to me for more information.)

Hilltown: They continue to be an MRC/DART unit. Due to the lack of funding, they will no longer continue to pay for a unit leader for the Hilltown Unit. Larry Holmberg will serve as the unit leader and Loren Davine will be the back-up/secondary.

Nonotuck Unit: Continues to collaborate with Easthampton Community Center each month and provide health/safety information to the people that use ECC.

UMass Amherst: We trained 200 nursing students on MRC 101/ICS/Psychological First Aid/Emergency Preparedness. They are currently holding multiple flu clinics and STI clinics. They also have an MRC group that meets weekly and provides trainings each week. They have planned trainings on car maintenance, fire safety, pet safety, CPR, MRC 101, and personal preparedness. They are planning to host another full scale exercise in the spring...details TBD.

County Coordinators: We hold a monthly county coordinators conference call to discuss MRC issues, goals, plans, ideas, etc. We worked together to purchase items (survival kits and bug spray) for each unit. We created an emergency preparedness quiz for National Preparedness Month and 32 people participated. We also challenged volunteers to take a picture of their emergency kits but no one chose to do that, however, many chose to take the quiz. A winner was randomly selected from each county to win a free survival kit for participating. Our next phone call will take place on Nov. 4th at 12pm.

- d. WAG and WRHSAC report – No time for report
- e. MRC Statewide Steering Committee report – No time for report
- f. HMCC update – No time for report.

- 5. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting
  - a. Next meeting date – TBD

- 6. Mary made a motion to adjourn at 11am. Sandra seconded. All in favor.

Minutes submitted by Michael Nelson.