



Meeting Minutes: Medical Reserve Corps Advisory Group (MAG)			
<b>Date</b>	January 3, 2017	<b>Location</b>	Dept. of Public Health 23 Service Center Rd Northampton, MA
<b>Time</b>	12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	<b>Duration</b>	1.5 Hours
		<b>Facilitator</b>	Tracy Rogers
		<b>Call In #</b>	
		<b>Access code</b>	

<b>Meeting Attendees:</b> Corinne McKeown, Jeanne Galloway, Michael Nelson, Erica Johnson, Tracy Rogers, Mary Kersell, Sandra Martin, Liz Foley, Robert Quinn O'Connor, Lois Luniewicz, Loren Davine, Brian McCartney	
1. Review/approval of November 1, 2016 meeting minutes – <i>Sandra made a motion to approve, Mary seconded. All in favor.</i>	
2. Old business	
a. Sheltering Residents with Substance Dependency – Loren gave an update on the \$15,000 grant. There are two second bachelor students from UMass working on the project. A focus group will be held with people with substance dependency regarding their needs in an emergency. A Substance Abuse training will be held on May 4 at 4pm at the Summit View in Holyoke. The trainings will be videotaped. Loren is applying for CEU credits. The room can hold up to 140.	
b. Competitive NACCHO grant application – Berkshire has applied for the grant to build upon the COADs. Lois applied on behalf of Hampden to identify reducing unit numbers and strategic planning.	
c. Regionalization strategy- Franklin County has not had any further conversation about disbanding. Lois said that four of her units are considering merging into one. There are question regarding how that unit will operate and be funded.	
d. UMass exercise – Mary is working on a text messaging exercise in April. DPH will pay for the texting costs of the drill. Units will need to get their volunteers to opt-in to receive text messages. There was discussion about making MA Responds be more intuitive to have volunteers opt-in for text messages. Liz will look into it.	
e. MRCs joining COADs – Sandra encouraged all units to join the COAD.	
3. New business	
a. Lois' meeting with the hospitals – Lois and Liz met with the Region 1 hospital group. The hospital reps who spoke were critical of MRC volunteers and had examples of issues with volunteers. The impression given was that volunteers were not dependable and did not stay within their role.	
b. Regional trainings – Tracy reminded everyone that there is \$400 for each county to use. Berkshire wants to create a game board for animal sheltering. Hampden will use their money towards an EDS exercise in Holyoke on February 10.	
4. Member reports	
a. MAG budget update – Tracy said there is about \$1000 unallocated at this time. There was some discussion about its use, but was tabled until the next meeting.	
b. Website status – None this month.	

- c. County coordinator reports – Corinne is working on a tabletop exercise for the DART team in the spring. Robert reported Franklin is holding a shelter setup drill in March.
- d. WAG and WRHSAC report – None this month.
- e. MRC Statewide Steering Committee report – Liz reported that a call was held last month. The steering committee is looking for issues from the regions that they can be working on. Sandra asked what purpose and value the MA MRC website has, and what the function is of Regina Villa. Liz said she considered the state MRC website as more for MRC leaders, not prospective volunteers.
- f. HMCC update – None this month.

5. Brian made a motion to adjourn at 2:15 pm. Mary seconded. All in favor.

Submitted by Michael Nelson