



**Region 4A Medical Reserve Corps
NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING
Under the provision of M.G.L. c. 30A, The Region 4A Medical Reserve Corps
Will conduct a MRC General Membership meeting
September 13, 2018
Bedford Town Hall
10 Mudge Way
Bedford, MA 01730**

Call to order/quorum by Chair/Executive Director

12:15pm

Present: Kitty Mahoney, Phyllis Schilp, Scott Moles, Susan Lumenello, Liz Foley, Regan Checchio, Amy Hansen, Sara Darlagiannis, Ari Winograd, Linda Fantasia, Merrily Evankoff, Karen DeCampo, Beverly Anderson, Ellen Hartnett, Heidi Porter, Rudy Ruggles, Jenifer Murphy, Mark Oram, Melissa Ranieri, Stephanie Duggan and Jendy Dunlop.

Agenda Items:

Presentation given by Kitty Mahoney, Susan Lumenello and Amy Hansen on Strategic Planning for the region. Discussion included next steps and how to proceed as 4A MRC Group.

The members in attendance discussed primary concerns and feedback that included:

- Dwindling volunteer base.
- Volunteers not responding during emergencies.
- Supplementing volunteers with municipal employees or VNA.
- Regional recruitment projects focused on towns that have decreasing numbers of volunteers and on specific types of volunteers (varying skillsets)
- Need more recruitment activities throughout the region.
- VC presence in communities.
- Responsibilities of each town health dept. structure relative to the regional 4A MRC (recruitment, training, deployment, etc.) Towns were in favor of relinquishing individual maintenance of volunteers in order to relieve responsibilities and build regional capacity.

A regional approach of dividing the 4A MRC Group into subdivisions was discussed by the group and was favored by all. Towns were reminded that they are not a single group but part of the larger region. Subdivisions would help streamline the process grouping towns together both by proximity and population size.



Discussion on what the role of the MRC VC looks like currently and how to identify gaps in service and focus areas for the position to better meet the goals of 4A MRC Region and 4A MRC Group. A time analysis review of the VC role is needed to prioritize role responsibilities and seek alternative position options.

A formula for funding allocation was discussed as needed by next budget period.

A PHEP funding proposal was presented to the group to supplement the VC role and provide needed oversight and support to Region 4A MRC. Region 4B currently requested funding for a similar position. Members of Region 4A MRC agreed that a funding request was warranted and might be a bigger ask in funds due to the size of Region 4A MRC.

The continuance of a PHEP project for Municipal Employees in the role as volunteers for Emergency Preparedness from the previous PHEP budget period was discussed as needing to be completed. A separate group needs to be formed for this project and that group should request funds independently.

Regan Checchio summed up the key points and identified gaps:

- Need an allocation formula by next Budget period
- PHEP ask for additional funds by Region 4A MRC and what that looks like
- Long Term- reorganizing with Sub Regions
- Improve Branding
- Meeting and Communication plans
- Review of time analysis and better alignment of priorities to address feedback

Moving Forward

- Feedback to 4A MRC Communities
- PHEP Proposal Breakdown by November meeting (If feasible)
- Funding Formula by next Budget period
- Sub regional planning for long term region restructuring

Motion to adjourn by Kitty Mahoney, second by Phyllis Schilp, all in favor, motion approved as presented.

Adjourn

2:00pm