

Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council
Planning / Pan Flu Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2018 9:30 am
DPH, Service Center Road, Northampton, MA

Present: Raine Brown (FRCOG), Ann Shea (Mercy Medical), Larry Holmberg (HREPC), Stephanie Bozigian-Merrick (PVPC), Allison Egan (BCBOHA), Tracy Rogers (FRCOG), Monica Wynne (Baystate Health), Mark Maloni (FRCOG), Loren Davine (HCPHC), Pat Smith (FRCOG), Michael Nelson (MDPH), Todd Zukowski (PVPC)

Ann Shea called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Meeting Minutes

Review and approval of the December 2017 meeting minutes was tabled until next month's meeting as the minutes were not available.

A round of introductions followed.

Public Health / Flu Update

Jeanne Galloway was unable to attend the meeting today. She shared an email of the most recent flu report. Stephanie Bozigian-Merrick shared a recent alert which notes that the H3N2 virus is not responding to the vaccination in some cases. People who have received the vaccination may become ill and don't think they have the flu because they have had the shot. It does provide some immune boost to them, but it is still the flu. Monica Wynn noted Baystate has enacted its age limit on visitors, those 12 and under are not admitted.

FFY16 Projects

Family Reunification Phase II

Pat Smith reported. Much of the work of the last month has been focused on identifying additional national conferences to submit presentation proposals to and the subsequent submissions. Pat noted Stephanie and Allison Egan have been doing much of this work. Allison shared that a proposal has been submitted to the National VOAD Conference to be held in Rhode Island. If accepted to this conference, representation from Massachusetts State Police will also attend. Others conferences include the National Homeland Security Conference, the NACHO Preparedness Summit, and the Ounce of Prevention. Tracy Rogers reminded the committee of the New Hampshire Preparedness Conference. Allison will follow up on this. Ann Shea shared that we have been accepted to present at the Joint Commissions Conference in April. Raine stated that Pat Smith will be the presenter. She also noted that the full Council approved the amendment to spend project funds on travel for the presenters.

Online training discussion - Allison reviewed the information she had previously provided on various software platforms to build the training. She also presented a draft outline of goals and modules for training. The Committee discussed the goals and made suggestions for edits.

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Allison made note of suggested changes and will take additional feedback via email and share with subcommittee.

The Committee discussed the various platforms. One of the two Adobe formats would likely be the best choice. Raine asked Allison to make sure Adobe will sell us a full license without having to purchase a monthly or yearly subscription. Allison will check on this and bring an update to the February meeting.

MACC Phase V- Hampden County

Todd Zukowski noted there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday with the Hampden County Sheriff's Office to determine the next steps for the project. MEMA has been invited to participate. Todd has completed the initial edits to the ConOps. This will be shared at Thursday's meeting.

FFY17 Projects

Children in Disasters Phase IV

Raine noted that the Children in Disasters Phase IV project will likely be Pediatric MCI Planning for the hospitals as previously discussed. Raine asked Tracy to speak on HMCC's efforts towards this. Tracy said she will be meeting with the Hospital Emergency Planning group in two weeks. She will begin the discussion with them then to gather their input on the project. She has been conducting some research on existing plans in the state and nation. The committee decided to revisit this topic in March to begin to draft a scope of work.

Functional/Access Needs Daily Response Planning

Raine presented a draft scope of work outline which she compiled based on a working group discussion about strategies for the project. She asked for feedback and edits. Allison asked that task two deliverables be listed out as two separate lines. Ann Shea noted that Bob Hassett has been doing some similar work in Springfield and may be a good contact for some ideas and recommendations. She stated he has been working with Basil Maurice of Stavros. Raine will complete a project justification and submit to EOPSS for approval. She will delineate a budget and send to the RPAs to review to determine if they have the staffing and time to commit to the project. The final scope of work and budget will be brought to the committee for full approval in February.

Infrastructure Visualization

Raine indicated she had done some research on the Northeast Council's STARS project as it was thought that project was most similar to this one. She learned that while the project did focus on developing blueprints for schools in the region, that they were printed and delivered to local fire and police. They weren't saved to a database for electronic access. The intention of this project is to produce more than blueprints with visualization provided via video walk-through.

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Ann Shea reported that when the Department of Homeland Security Infrastructure Protection Services did a safety audit at Mercy one of their recommendations was some sort of visualization capture. She wonders if perhaps Tim Donnelly or Jarret Wright might have some suggestions as to how this information is captured and stored. Raine indicated she will contact them to discuss.

Todd suggested that perhaps the information data could end up as the responsibility of the building owner and it would be their responsibility to distribute to local responders. Monica noted at Baystate the hospital security staff has copies of blueprints both in their vehicles and offices and they provide the information to responders as they respond to a call at the hospital.

There was additional discussion regarding how to choose where to start the program and some concerns expressed in regards to past experiences with data collection projects.

Raine will contact Tim and Jarrett and will report at the next meeting.

Budget Review

Raine reviewed the FFY16 & 17 budgets. She noted there is currently \$5,000 unallocated in FFY16. She recommended that this be kept unallocated at this time as additional funds may be needed for travel expenses if more of the Family Reunification Presentation proposals are accepted. She reported that all the suggested projects for FFY18 Investment Plan were approved by the Council. The Council expressed particular interest in the Mental Health Recovery Resource Guide.

Requests

None

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Items unforeseen by the chair

Stephanie asked the committee if it was okay to bring an intern to the next meeting. The committee indicated she was more than welcome to.

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Next Meeting

Ann noted the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 9:30 am at DPH, 23 Service Center Road, Northampton, MA.

There being no further business Tracy Rogers motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mark Maloni seconded. Voted was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Raine Brown, Franklin Regional Council of Governments