

Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health

MINUTES

July 11, 2023 – 1pm

This meeting was held remotely under the provisions allowed by Acts (2021) Chapter 20, An Act relative to extending specific COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency (<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2021/Chapter20>) approved on June 16, 2021

Attendees: Connor Robichaud– CMRPC; Jack McLellan – Mendon; Jeanne Gniadek – Northbridge; Erin Hightower– Uxbridge; Diane Tiernan – Upton; Agnieszka Podstawka and Kristin Harris – Douglas; Bill Fisher – Hopedale; Sherry Patch – Millville; Deb Vescera, Danielle Edmands, Dan Markman, Jack Sullivan – BVPPH; Neal Nover - Guest

1. Presentation from WinWam, inspection software

Neal Nover presented housing software. BVPPH will seek a price proposal to compare this option with the current Housing Code Pro software.

2. Approval of Minutes

Jeanne made a motion, seconded by Erin, to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2023, BVPPH meeting. The motion to include this adjustment and approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. Inspection Staff Update

New inspection cycle, finishing any that haven't been done and restarting inspections from the top for FY24. Camp inspections are coming up.

4. Public Health Nurse Update

The maternal health program's mission statement and objectives and goals have been shared. The mission statement, objectives, and goals for the hoarding program and hoarding task force were shared from Uxbridge.

5. Epidemiologist Updates

Only a little data coming out of MAVEN, but some indications that Uxbridge has substantial levels in their wastewater samples. Working on a usable format for other infectious diseases – narrowed it down to 10 diseases. No West Nile or EEE yet. Lyme disease had 180 cases last year; we are on track to almost double that this year. Tuberculosis had a dramatic reduction this year, as did chicken pox.

6. Shared Service Coordinator Update

DPH had minor feedback on our Workplan, and a revised version will be shared with the group before the next meeting. It's mostly reframing our objectives to make sure they fit their format.

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They've also recommended we include something to address backup documentation to ensure that assessment is easier next time.

Increased funding will come in September.

MHOA Conference is in October – Agnieszka and Kristin are interested. Others should reach out if they are interested. Connor will ask about hotel registration and email the group with instructions.

7. Unanticipated business

Next meeting is August 9th at 1pm.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 pm.