

Hartford Ad Hoc Committee on Coronavirus Response Meeting Minutes 4/10/20 @ 4:00 PM | Via Zoom (Second Meeting)

Committee Attendance: Kristi Clemens (Chair), Sue Buckholz (Vice-Chair), Simon Dennis (Secretary), Becky Chollet, Barbara Farnsworth, Brannon Godfrey, Brett Mayfield, Martha McDaniel, Deborah Scribner, Becca White, Chuck Wooster

Committee Absence: Dan Fraser, Gail Ostrout

Community Attendance: PJ Skehan, Michael Redmond

Kristi Clemens called the meeting to order at 4:00 and called for a motion on the minutes of the 4/3 HADCCR Meeting. It was noted that Sue Buckholz's name is spelled without a "t" at the end. **Martha McDaniel moved to pass the minutes as amended. Sue Buckholz seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Kristi Clemens called for reports from the Town Health Officer and Town Manager.

Brett Mayfield spoke about his activities as Town Health Officer.

Brannon Godfrey reported about the activities of the Town referencing a report of all Town Staff activities.

Kristi Clemens called for reports from the four Subgroups.

Stop the Spread Subgroup

MarthaMcDaniel reported. She mentioned the importance of supporting the good work of Town Health Officer, Brett Mayfield and said the Committee focused on education and face masks. Re Dartmouth Hitchcock has donated now 400 masks to the Town of Hartford. Becky Chollet is the communications person who has made a list of Email Listservs. Deputy Health Officer is a priority. The STSS has proposed that kicking off this position should go out to the Selectboard this Tuesday. Simon mentioned three motions that the STSS is asking the HADCCR to support going before the Selectboard. These are the motion to launch the Deputy Health Officer, the motion to launch a Mask Making Proposal, and the motion to modify the HADCCR Charge to allow the HADCCR to take actions on behalf of the community to advance the Committee's goals articulated in the Charge.

Chuck Wooster made a motion to support bringing the Mask Making Proposal before the Selectboard. Sue Buckholtz Seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Becky Chollet made a motion to support bringing the discussion regarding creating the Deputy Health Officer before the Selectboard. Martha McDaniel Seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Sue Buckholtz made a motion to support the Selectboard discussion about modifying the Charge to allow the HADCCR to take actions not regarding changing policy or spending funds to advance the four goals of the Committee. Martha McDaniel seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Supporting Medical Professionals

Scott Cooney reported: This group considered finding housing for care providers. They had included in the questions going out from the Town: “Had that facility developed plans for providing housing for first responders or other medical professionals who become infected.” Becky Chollet mentioned a list of healthcare professionals who do not work in hospitals and who may be overlooked. Simon enquired about Brookside as a potential overflow site. The State is looking at hotels. Michael Redmond said that he has looked at Brookside and it is not in feasible shape and would require too much rehab to play a role in satisfying a need for overflow in the current emergency.

Preserving the Economy

Brannon Godfrey reported: They met once and talked about assessing the needs of businesses as they are getting overwhelmed with getting resource referrals. For this purpose they have been working on a simple short survey. The survey contained 5 questions. Chuck Wooster suggested a method for creating a master list of businesses that could be linked to via the survey and/or adding a question to the survey about other businesses that could be reached out to.

Food Supply Group

Chuck Wooster reported: We have an immediate issue of people who have food needs and longer-term issues pertaining to food supply in the event of a deeper recession. Regarding the short-term needs, vulnerable populations they discussed include: students, older adults (Bugbee Sr Cr.), homeless (The UV Haven), unemployed and discontinued, special needs, undocumented residents (UVRT), people in quarantine. The group mentioned neighborhood captains and perhaps working with Resilient Hartford. Michael Redmond reported that he had spoken to the Director of the Bugbee Sr Cr. They are managing 70-80 meals on wheels. They are hoping to ramp up a takeaway program. The question was raised as to the scope and duration of the Committee’s work. Simon Dennis said that long-term solutions would be very important.

Kristi Clemens offered to create a report to the Selectboard by the 4/30 Deadline. She also agreed to attend Selectboard meetings as possible/needed.

Martha McDaniel moved to close the meeting. Chuck Wooster seconded. All were in favor and the meeting concluded at 5:30 PM.

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary