

## **Hartford Ad Hoc Committee on Coronavirus Response Meeting Minutes**

2/17/21 @ 4:00 PM | Via Zoom

**Committee Attendance:** Scott Cooney (Chair), Simon Dennis (Secretary), Becky Chollet, Brett Mayfield, Martha McDaniel (Vice-Chair), Deborah Scribner, Dan Fraser.

**Martha called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM**, took attendance and called for changes to the agenda. There were none. **Brett moved passage of the minutes of January 20th, 2021. Deborah seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

Becky suggested an amendment to the Minutes of 2/3/21 to include specification of “shipping” regarding the reimbursement. Simon made the amendment. **Dan moved passage of the minutes of 2/3/21, Becky seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.**

### **Reports from the Town**

Brett reported that MRC has reported that vaccinations are rolling out nicely. Clinics are packed in VT. We received 3 boxes of cloth masks, containing 2000 Masks each, totaling 6000 masks from Rotary. Rotary said there are more available as we need them. We can decide if we wish to advertise mask availability to local businesses. Testing continues at Alice Peck Day Hospital. Springfield Hospital has more openings for testing. Fairlee is also testing.

Martha mentioned that case rates were down yesterday and again under 100 today.

Martha reported that Felicia has reported that many people had tested at the schools with no positive results.

The opening of sports activities seems to be going well.

A thankyou letter from the Committee to Hartford Rotary would be a good thing. Martha will write it. Thank you Martha.

### **Slow-the-Spread**

Martha reported that masks are moving fast at all libraries except W. Hartford, and at the Methodist Food Shelf. We continue to be well supplied with Masks.

### **Communications**

Becky reported that the first and second vaccine sheets went out and that the Subgroup has been utilizing the Hartford List Serve and Covid Alert Button to send out notices regarding Vaccination guidelines and availability and the CDC’s Mask Guidance updates. We are trying to get the info graphics, regarding Vaccine Worksheets, Early Voting and a Share-Your-Shot Campaign posted in the “downtime” moments at Budget and Candidates Night.

We are hoping to send out an email to the business list offering free and disposable masks in response to the new CDC guidelines. We are getting set to run our share-your-shot Vaccine Clinic. It suggested that perhaps we should wait until we are reaching a less

eager-to-be-vaccinated/younger audience before rolling out the poster campaign at places of vaccination.

Scott mentioned that all interested Staff have received both shots. EMTs have received training for intramuscular shot administration. Hartford is working with Mt Ascutney Hospital, who is having trouble hiring the support staff to meet their recent demand.

### **Economic Sub Committee**

Becky mentioned that Vital Communities is offering a 4-session webinar on the subject of how municipalities can reinvest local dollars. Perhaps some member of the Business Group can attend. Becky will check with PJ to have him send that out.

Brett had a conversation with Tracy. He felt that Tracy would be a good member if she were interested/has time. Kristi will reach out to her to extend that invitation.

Kristi resumed her role as Committee Chair.

### **Other topics**

Kristi said she would create a google doc to collect names of individuals who we should invite to join the committee and asked for suggestions regarding where gaps are.

Brett said that we are going to need a lot of support for existing mental health and other frontline health workers.

Scott said that he feels that mental health is also a major issue, particularly at the highschool. What does it do to people to be communicating virtually for 12 months? We don't really know.

Simon mentioned the need for outreach to local businesses to check on their status. And the need for greater connection to the School Board.

Deborah said that it would be important to hear from the Town Manager. She may have information about what the community she came from was doing. Encouraging people to get out may support mental health by highlighting existing paths and opportunities to enjoy the natural world.

Becky mentioned that Parks and Recreation has made heroic efforts. **Could we do something like a block party focussed on family wellness, focussing on existing practitioners such as Open Door, and other Health and Wellness Purveyors?**

**Brett seconded the appreciation of Parks and Rec. Perhaps we could set things up like a First Night event where people can actually go, a First Friday focussed on mental health. Martha also mentioned the First Night Model.**

Brett wanted to clarify the State's order that after two weeks of having the 2nd dose of the vaccine, if you are asymptomatic, you do not have to quarantine.

Martha asked that once vaccinated you will receive a card that states your status.

Scott mentioned that Lori Hirshfield reports weekly on the economic status of local businesses in Town. If we are looking for a data piece, she is our go to person.

**Dan moved to adjourn. Becca seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50.**

HADCCR's next meeting will take place via Zoom on 3/3/21 at 4:00 PM.

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary.