

Hartford Ad Hoc Committee on Coronavirus Response Meeting Minutes

9/2/20 @ 4:00 PM | Via Zoom

Committee Attendance: Kristi Clemens (Chair), Sue Buckholz (Vice Chair), Martha McDaniel (Interim Secretary), Becky Chollet,, Brett Mayfield, Deborah Scribner, Dan Fraser, Barbara Farnsworth, Scott Cooney, Becca White, PJ Skehan (community member).

Sue Buckholz called the meeting to order at 4:04, took attendance, and called for additions to the agenda. She then called for amendments to the minutes for 8/5/20. Brett Mayfield moved passage of the Minutes of the Meeting of 8/5/20 as presented. Becca White seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. Minutes from 8/19 were scantily available. Sue Buckholz moved that discussion of these be tabled, Martha McDaniel seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Town Reports

From Scott Cooney:

- there's a new interactive dashboard on the VT DOH website (<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/current-activity-vermont>), updated daily
- 1000 of the state-issued masks are at the Fire Dept.; Health officer has the other portion.
- Coronavirus testing (by schedule) will continue on Prospect St. each Thursday for the foreseeable future. Schedule for 9/3 is full.

From Brett Mayfield (Health Officer):

- Virus activity: none in Hartford, 4 active cases in Windsor Cty, 1-4 each in Hanover and Lyme NH
- no major problem with guideline compliance
- UV Strong is honoring 1 business each week for notable antivirus measures
- Town-sponsored outdoor concerts have been a notable success; 150 people at last week's concert. Final one scheduled for 9/9.
- School reopening: Brett has the school plans, and will visit each of the schools in rotation (including the Aquatic Center). There are 2 coronavirus managers for the school district; one of these may be a good candidate to be a liaison between the school district and this committee.
- addendum from Kristi Clemens: 2000 Dartmouth students will be returning to campus on Tuesday 9/9. Additionally, there are about 1000 living off-campus – many of these in Hartford (esp. Quechee).

Slow-the-Spread Report

Martha McDaniel reported that this workgroup last met on 8/20, and that much of its news either has already been covered or will be covered by the Communications workgroup (with which they met in joint session on 8/26). She commended Becky Chollet, Brett Mayfield, Deb Scribner, Simon Dennis, and Alanna Mayer for their work in cleaning and distributing masks and revising the handout/instructions included in each mask package.

Economic Support/Recovery Group Report (PJ Skehan):

- good that the Hartford Revolving Loan Fund distributed grants last week; hopefully more money will be available for the program at a later date
- the #BuyLocalVT program supports a variety of businesses (restaurant and retail) after their application. Applications for \$30.00 gift certificate are expected to be available to citizens on the ACCD website after 9/8/20.
- the Chamber of Commerce program “Restart VT” features a \$10,000 grant application for businesses, available on the ACCD website. Fifty grants will be awarded, and decisions will be rendered by 10 days after application.
- \$9000 may flow to Hartford businesses through the state “Buy Local” gift certificates. Citizens can apply for \$15 or \$25 gift certificates; local businesses will recoup \$30 or \$50 respectively for these. The program will be marketed by Vital Communities and the Chamber of Commerce.

Food Group Report (Barbara Farnsworth):

- no news on school plan for feeding students on remote learning days
- Upper Valley Everyone Eats funding, hosted by Vital Communities, will be active 9/9-9/20. Meals will be made during this period and frozen in a new freezer funded by UV Strong.
- Haven and WRJ Methodist church food shelves seeing increased activity
- Willing Hands having a capital campaign for long-term food security – should we promote?

Communications Committee Report (Becky Chollet)

- MasksOnHartford social media campaign is underway – selfies of people wearing masks needed. These can be submitted via: #masksonhartford (Twitter), masksonhartford@gmail.com, or @hartford_community_coalition (Instagram). The group requests that submitters also reach out to 3 businesses or other people, to solicit them for mask-wearing photos.
- the Communications Workgroup will try to make a weekly post via social media (Twitter or listserv)

- logo for mask-wearing campaign: Alanna Mayer has generously designed and offered several possible logos. If the HADCCR can endorse one, and send it along to the SB for approval, we can use it for various communications. The HADCCR members present voted for #4 (different shapes, sizes, colors of people and masks). Kristi moved approval, and Martha seconded, this choice. Unanimously, we send it along to the SelectBoard for approval.
- budget for communications (banners, flags, stickers etc.) to be discussed at slow-the-spread workgroup meeting 9/3.

HADCCR meeting frequency

We'll continue meeting biweekly for now. Next meeting Sept 16 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha McDaniel, Interim Secretary