



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Sheltering Committee Meeting

### Minutes

*February 1, 2022*

*1:00pm*

[Zoom Link](#)

*Meeting ID: 913 4855 4081*

*Passcode: 818122*

*Call In: 1 646 876 9923*

### **Call to Order**

- Chair N. Berger called the meeting to order at 1:07pm.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes from the January 4, 2022 Meeting.**

MOTION put forth by M. Monroe

- Approve the January 4, 2022 meeting minutes.
- Seconded by H. Tecce.
  - In favor: H. Tecce, L. Sardella, M. Monroe, J. Weinstock, B. Roberts.
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

### **FFY22 Plan Development**

- This was an open discussion for committee members to present project ideas for NERAC's FFY22 Plan.
  - The committee discussed the potential need for regional shelters which could fill gaps among municipalities. Specifically, a study to identify if there is a regional need for shelters for general access, access and functional needs, and/or for pets.
    - During the most recent snowstorm, MEMA was asked by local fire chiefs and EMDs if there were regional shelters available. MEMA may also have contacts identified in the NERAC region who would be interested in supporting regional shelters.
    - The Southeast Region of Massachusetts can provide a potential project example since the Red Cross has recently worked with Weymouth to create a regional shelter.
  - Another project idea suggested was an exercise based on lessons learned from the Merrimack Valley gas explosions. This would also help to identify any communications gaps that would occur on the transportation side of emergency events.
  - MAPC will draft a Project Request for a feasibility study where a consultant would be hired to identify potential regional shelter locations, and next steps. The



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committee will also further brainstorm potential exercises/drills that could be based on past evacuation events.

## **New Business Unforeseen by the Chair**

- The committee would like to discuss and potentially change the purview/role of the committee that is written in the NERAC bylaws at the next committee meeting.

MOTION put forth by H. Tecce.

- Adjourn meeting.
- Seconded by M. Monroe.
  - In favor: H. Tecce, L. Sardella, M. Monroe, J. Weinstock, B. Roberts.
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: None.
- The motion passed.

**\*\* Next Meeting: March 1, 2022 at 1:00pm\*\***

## ATTENDEES – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair Noah Berger: Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority\*

Heather Tecce: MEMA Region 1

Lauren Sardella: MEMA Region 1

Mark Monroe: MassDOT

Joanne Weinstock: FEMA

Beth Roberts: Region 3 HMCC/MAPC

## ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, NERAC Council Chair: Marblehead Fire Department\*

Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health Agent\*

McKinley Theobald: MassDOT

## ATTENDEES – OTHER

Rosemary Volinski: MAPC

Lauren Sacks: MAPC

Amy Reilly: MAPC

## **The following documents were used/referenced during the meeting:**

- 2.2022 Sheltering Committee Agenda
- 1.2022 January 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes