



# NORTHEAST HOMELAND SECURITY REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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## Sheltering Committee Meeting

### Minutes

*March 1, 2022*

*1:00pm*

[Zoom Link](#)

*Meeting ID: 933 5842 5519*

*Passcode: 229945*

*Call In: 1 646 876 9923*

### **Call to Order**

- Chair N. Berger called the meeting to order at 1:09pm.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes from the February 1, 2022 Meeting.**

MOTION put forth by D. Ouellette.

- Approve the February 1, 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes.
- Seconded by M. Monroe.
  - In favor: H. Tecce, L. Sardella, M. Monroe, B. Robert, D. Ouellette.
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: B. Goodrich.
- The motion passed.

### **Introduction of New Committee Member Betsy Goodrich**

#### **Discussion of the Role/Purview of the Committee**

- There was discussion during the previous committee meeting on the role/purview of the committee detailed in the NERAC bylaws. The NERAC Bylaws state: *“This committee shall be responsible for the overall coordination of evacuation, sheltering, and pandemic influenza preparedness in the Northeast Region with a goal of providing resources, supplies, and planning to enhance overall evacuation and sheltering preparedness in the Northeast Region.”*
- This description doesn't mean that the committee is required to manage pandemic preparedness for the entire region, rather this is one type of project that the committee could be responsible for if they so choose. This description doesn't make it a requirement, just an option/goal for committee projects.
- The committee will not edit the role/purview written in the NERAC Bylaws at this time and will revisit this topic if needed.

#### **FFY22 Plan Development**

- Feasibility Study
  - The draft of the FFY22 Project Request for a needs assessment & feasibility study was discussed with the committee.



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- The draft FY22 Project Request contains an overview of a needs assessment and feasibility study that would gauge interest regarding regional shelters in the Northeast Region. If the needs assessment indicates interest from the region, the feasibility study would help identify the best locations and what type of shelters would be needed.
- The committee would like to further fine tune this project idea and research other regional shelter models in Massachusetts.

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

- None.

MOTION put forth by D. Ouellette.

- Adjourn meeting.
- Seconded by M. Monroe.
  - In favor: H. Tecce, L. Sardella, M. Monroe, B. Robert, D. Ouellette.
  - Opposed: None.
  - Abstain: B. Goodrich.
- The motion passed.

**\*\* Next Meeting: April 5, 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  
Dave Ouellette: Dracut Public Health Agent\*  
Beth Robert: Region 3 HMCC/MAPC  
Betsy Goodrich: Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

## ABSENT – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chief Jason Gilliland, NERAC Council Chair: Marblehead Fire Department\*  
McKinley Theobald: MassDOT  
Joanne Weinstock: FEMA  
Christopher Curry: Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

## ATTENDEES – OTHER

Rosemary Volinski: MAPC  
Lauren Sacks: MAPC  
Amy Reilly: MAPC

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

- 3.2022 Sheltering Committee Agenda
- 2.2022 February 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- FY22 Project Request Draft