

HEALTH BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE (BRC) MEETING NOTES 05JANUARY2021

Voting members present: Kathie Lynch (Chair), Ann Birner (Minutes), James Petersen, Kim McNamara

Absent: Bianca Monteiro

Non-voting city staff present: Stephanie Seacord, Kristin Shaw, Toni McLellan

Action items below follow name of responsible party (name in bold font).

Kathie read the approved waiver for remote meeting participation during the pandemic and participants identified location and any others present at that location.

Minutes of last week's meeting were approved following clarification as to voting membership. **Kathie** will follow up to confirm our belief that voting membership includes herself, Kim, Ann, James, and Bianca, as well as the identity of the final additional voting member.

The dashboard was reviewed. There is a newly sourced tristate summary section midpage. **Stephanie** updated the source link for those graphs. Weekly reports to the Reopen BRC including the dashboard would be ideal and **Kathie** will deliver tomorrow, emphasizing that with area positivity well over the WHO defined threshold of 5%, close monitoring is necessary in considering adjustments to restrictions. This committee must encourage vaccination and continued adherence to safety measures. Next week, **Stephanie** will adjust the NH/County/City COVID infections and hospitalization graphs to show the data over a more recent timeline on the y axes. **Ann** will provide draft minutes to Health BRC voting members after each meeting. **Kathie** will provide these along with the invitation, the dashboard, and the agenda to Jessica Griffin and she will cc Stephanie.

Committee members agree that routine editing of FAQs will not require formal votes. The NH DHHS COVID-19 Outbreak, Update # 32 on the topic of "*CDC Updates COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Guidance*" contains a 2-page chart comparing the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines that will be inserted into the Vaccine FAQ by **Stephanie**. Also per her recommendation and to reduce any confusion from old, static information, **Stephanie** will eliminate PDFs of FAQs leaving only the "dynamic" format on the city website.

Also

Rich will join the Chamber Chat call on vaccination this Friday and report back to the BRC.

Public Comments: Kim replied to a question about local health resource capability and the current process for monitoring and managing local health resources. **Stephanie** will look for information on local and/or regional hospitalization, ICU, etc. capacity to be considered for inclusion in the dashboard.

A question regarding contagiousness and the recommended quarantine/isolation recommendations was raised. The so-called UK variant [B.1.1.7] is most likely present across the US and has been identified as more contagious, thereby warranting reinforcement of the need for precautions such as masking, social distancing, and avoiding gatherings.