



NATICK 180  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Remote Participation by Zoom

8:30 am January 5, 2022



MINUTES

Steering Committee Member or Designee	Organization	Sector Represented	Present	Absent
Steve Baroletti	Metrowest Medical Center	Healthcare		✓
Donald Breda	Natick Board of Health	Local Government	✓	
Fr. Joseph Gallick	Natick Interfaith Clergy Association / Church of the Annunciation	Religious / Fraternal		✓
Christine Guthery	SPARK Kindness	Civic / Volunteer	✓	
Chief James Hicks	Natick Police Department	Law Enforcement	✓	
Paul Joseph	Natick Selectboard	Local Government	✓	
Sarallyn Keller, Chair	Natick Interfaith Clergy Association / First Congregational Church	Religious / Fraternal	✓	
Chief Michael Lentini	Natick Fire Department	Local Municipal Dept.	✓	
Nick Loscocco	Recovery Community / SMOC	Other organization involved in reducing substance misuse	✓	
Cheryle Lucenta	SOAR Natick	Other organization involved in reducing substance misuse	✓	
Dr. Anna Nolin Vice Chair	Natick Public Schools	Schools		✓
Lt. Cara Rossi	Natick Police Department	Law Enforcement	✓	
Katie Sugarman	Natick Health Department / Natick 180	Local Government	✓	

Michael Boudreau	Natick Health Department	Local Government	✓	
Staff				
Lizzy Chalfin	Natick Health Department / Natick 180	Local Government	✓	
Astrid Dretler	Natick Health Department / Natick 180	Local Government	✓	
Member(s) of the Public				

**Link to Meeting PowerPoint:**

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1twv87v8A6o\\_aYGjaRDAa7OUDwBXM2wwP/edit#slide=id.p1](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1twv87v8A6o_aYGjaRDAa7OUDwBXM2wwP/edit#slide=id.p1)

**Agenda**

- **Citizens' Concerns:** None.
- Vote on **December 1, 2021 Steering Committee meeting minutes**  
Meeting minutes were accepted "as is" and without change; a motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded, and then approved by majority vote.
- Updates and Announcements from December 2021 Steering Committee (SC) meeting:
  - **Quarterly Coalition Meeting**
    - Natick 180 will likely have 3 coalition-wide meetings this year (as opposed to the typical 4). The next coalition-wide meetings are being planned for February 2022 and June 2022. The February meeting will be held on either February 15th or 16th from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. The team will check with NATI and see what works best for their schedules before planning the meeting date. The February meeting will focus on team building and better integrating youth into the Coalition's work, so it is important to accommodate youth schedules when planning the event. It is still undecided whether this meeting will be in-person or virtual. A hybrid meeting option will be provided either way, but for now the Coalition will plan for an in-person event and adjust to a virtual event if necessary. If in person, the event will be held in a Town Hall meeting room.
  - **Families for Depression Awareness Event: "Addressing Family Stress and Depression"**
    - January 19th from 7:00 - 8:15 PM ET
    - This topic is very relevant right now given the high levels of stress the community is experiencing. Folks are encouraged to share the event with their networks.
  - **Youth Mental Health First Aid**
    - Natick 180 has scheduled two training sessions for the end of January.
      - Members of the general public (January 25-26th evenings, virtual)
      - Natick Community Organic Farm staff (January 28th all day, virtual)
  - **Event for BIPOC Community**
    - There remains an interest in this event, but it has been tabled because some of the potential partner organizations are overwhelmed with other scheduling demands. Natick

180 staff met with Human In Common (HIC) on Jan. 4th to discuss these efforts and, for now, the team will focus on further developing connections with the METCO program, planning for Natick High School's Equity Co-op event in March, and possibly developing a training in partnership with HIC so that local youth can train other youth on the intersections of substance use, mental health, and racism. The plan is to pilot this new training with METCO students and expand later.

- Town department reports:

- **Natick Police and Fire Departments -**

- There was one overdose on December 7th. Narcan was administered and the patient was transported to the Metrowest Framingham Hospital.
- There was a second overdose on December 23rd. The person who overdosed was a 42 year old male and the overdose happened at the Monticello Inn. Narcan was on-hand, the person was revived, and was transported to the hospital.
  - Police returned to the hotel the next day to leave pamphlets and Narcan in the room. The person was encouraged to go to recovery court in the past, but chose jail time instead. Natick Police are trying to provide support to the family.
- On January 4th the Natick Police were called to Natick High School for an overdose. SRO Officer Hefler knows the family. After arriving on scene, it was determined that the student took 4 Delsym cough suppressants and was more lethargic than experiencing an overdose. The student was transported to Framingham Hospital.
  - This is an example of the high level of behavioral health and substance use issues that are rising and need to be addressed by the community. We are hoping that the Metrowest Adolescent Health Survey will help us learn more about what is going on with youth in town.
- Year to date, there have been 0 fatal overdoses and 2 non-fatal overdoses in Natick.

- **Natick Public Schools -** Rose McDermott attended to represent NPS

- The schools are dealing with a lot of COVID-19 cases after returning from the holidays.
- 300 students were out at the High School on 1/4/22 and Lilja Elementary School shut down for the day last week due to COVID-19 related concerns.

- **Natick Health Department -**

- Due to a recent store closure, one of Natick's tobacco licenses was available until December 17th. Since no entity claimed the open license, there are now 18 active licenses in Natick.
- There is one current smoke shop at the Natick Mall. The Town will likely not have any additional smoke shops in the future.
- There are two current applicants for cannabis delivery services (there was a walk through with the second applicant on 1/4/22). This service is allowed under the Cannabis Control Commission. Both candidates are solid and will go to the Selectboard in the next few months for approval.
  - There are two types of delivery services: 1) A delivery service where you go to a retail establishment and 2) A delivery service where the retail store delivers the product directly to the person's home.
  - Delivery services are only available to towns that have accepted cannabis in their towns (ie: cannot sell in Wellesley, but can sell in Natick).
  - A person using a delivery service must show a valid government issued ID at both the time of order and the delivery; drivers can only deliver to the person themselves; the transaction needs to be documented.
  - Delivery services used to be all cash which posed safety issues, now more debit/credit cards are accepted.
  - A question was raised about how delivery services handle tips. The Health Department will look more into how cash tips work.
- A major focus in the department is COVID-19. There is a large demand for testing. It is highly recommended that people wear a mask (masks are currently required in all municipal departments).

- Jessica Cliff will be starting January 26th as the Senior Environmental Specialist.
- Elaine Cheng will be starting January 12th as an Administrative Assistant.
- **Natick Selectboard -**
  - The Selectboard is looking more into partnering with the Community and Economic Development Department on-workforce development. One specific topic they want to focus on is recovery friendly workplaces. Amanda Loomis, Athena Pandolf (from NCCD), the MetroWest Chamber of Commerce, and MetroWest Care Connects may be good partners to start with. People interested in getting involved in recovery-friendly workplaces can connect with Paul Joseph. There was a regional recovery friendly workplace initiative that came to a standstill when COVID-19 started.

Community reports:

- **MetroWest Medical Center -** Tabled, not present.
  - Natick 180 is meeting with a representative from MWMC next week about determining an appropriate representative from the hospitals since Steve Baroletti is no longer filling this role.
- **SOAR Natick**
  - The group is opening their grants up soon and will most likely have \$10 thousand for grants.
  - Received a lot of donations during their holiday fundraiser for those in early recovery. A family whose son is having a Bar-Mitzvah helped gather and deliver gift bags for those in early recovery. The group really enjoyed working with this family.
  - The group is hoping to have a runner in the marathon again this year.
  - They are working to plan 2020 events.
- **SPARK Kindness**
  - The group will assist in promoting the Families for Depression Awareness event on January 19th.
  - An event on LGBTQ Basics and Beyond with OUT Metrowest is scheduled for February (there is a lot of demand to learn more about language and awareness regarding the LGBTQ+ community).
  - SPARK is still working on several upcoming programs focused on eating disorders and collaborating with other communities and NHS youth to plan this event. This is an issue that does not get a lot of attention, but there are many youth in the community who would benefit from better support around eating disorders. The upcoming event is “Understanding Eating Disorders: What Parents and Caregivers Need to Know” and will include a panel discussion with a local doctor and social worker.
  - There is a Trauma Training from Wayside for parents/caregivers and SPARK is likely to have this training and would like Natick 180 to get involved as well.
  - The Resilience Project at Newton-Wellesley Hospital is a helpful resource. They provide free trainings and services with parents and schools. They also provide some free clinical services and support for families who have youth that are brought to the hospital for social/behavioral health needs.
- **Natick Interfaith Clergy Association -**
  - The Annual Vigil on December 19, 2021 went great and was well-received by the community.
  - The group is currently working on the MLK event for January 17th. The event will be an all-virtual format due to COVID-19 and NATI students may help with the event.
- **Recovery community -**
  - A lot of people in recovery enter the workforce as either a labor worker or person in the recovery space. So working on developing more recovery friendly workplaces will be good for the recovery community.
- **Local and statewide policy updates:**
  - The new Policy Sub-Committee will have its first meeting on January 18th from 4:00 - 5:00

PM. The intention of this group is to vet and research and policy requests that come in, connect with legislators, take a stance on policy issues, etc. Natick 180 wants to make sure that we are consistent in policies and keep equity and public safety top of mind.

- Natick180 has not received any policy requests recently. However, the Coalition is keeping an eye on the MA Package Store Association's ballot initiative to take the caps off the number of alcohol licenses a store can have. For instance, large stores previously could only have 3 locations state-wide for alcohol and there is a push to remove this cap. MA Package Store Association's stand is to loosen, not eliminate the caps. Instead, they would like the number of locations to be increased. It still needs to be determined what role Natick 180 can have in this space since it is a ballot initiative and our work could end up impacting an election. As of right now, enough signatures have been gathered to qualify the measure for a ballot initiative.
- **Finance update -**  
View link to meeting PowerPoint for account updates. No significant changes. Some of the Legislative Earmark funds were used for the Jon Mattleman training and we will also use these monies to purchase Narcan in the next 1-2 months.
- **Action Team Updates -** There will be an Awareness & Education Action Team meeting on Tuesday, 1/11 from 9-10:30 AM. The next Access To Services Action Team's next meeting is on Wednesday, 1/19 from 1-2:30 PM.
- **Set the next meeting date/time and adjourn -** Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022 from 8:30-10:00.

*Agenda items will be addressed in an order determined by the meeting facilitator.*