



Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes



Time: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
<u>Virtual Meeting</u> https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86277008938

Attendance Roll Call

Voting members present:

Sam Menard, Dedham
Stacey Lane, Norwood
Melissa Ranieri, Walpole
Caroline Kinsella, Milton
Meg Goldstein, Canton
Jhana Wallace, Wellesley (voted for Wellesley)
Jared Orsini, Westwood (joined late)

Non-voting members present:

Aine Studdert-Kennedy, BME Strategies
Beth Haefner, BME Strategies
Jackson Lieb, BME Strategies
Sarah Lavari, Regional Epidemiologist
Trish Fisher, Walpole
Katie Paciorkowski, Dedham
Abbie Atkins, Norwood
Ginnie Chacon-Lopez, Needham

Voting members absent:

Lenny Izzo, Wellesley

Melissa Ranieri motioned to start the meeting. Stacey Lane seconded the motion.

Canton: Y
Dedham: Y
Milton: Y
Norwood: Y
Walpole: Y
Wellesley: Y
Westwood: not present



Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes



The regular meeting of the Norfolk County-8 (NC-8) Local Public Health Coalition was called to order at 11:03 AM on July 6, 2026.

I. Welcome

- a. BME provided an overview of the agenda to start the meeting.

Melissa Ranieri made a motion to approve the June 2026 Coalition Meeting minutes and the June 2026 Budget Meeting minutes. Sam Menard seconded the motion.

Canton: Y
Dedham: Y
Milton: Y
Norwood: Y
Walpole: Y
Wellesley: Y
Westwood: not present

Minutes were approved.

II. Announcements and Reminders

- a. NC-8 Monthly Pre-Read Tool: Key announcements and project updates were shared in advance via a one-page pre-read. Aine provided a brief overview of the updates shared in the pre-read.

III. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Updates

- a. Jackson Lieb provided an update on MRC activities, highlighting current coordination efforts for local and statewide World Cup games. While the NC-8 MRC did not deploy for the recent extreme heat emergency, units were placed on standby, prompting a coalition discussion where members shared local strategies and agreed to exchange templates for municipal cooling centers.
- b. Planning is underway for the third annual training day event, tentatively set for September 13th in Needham. The rollout of the new volunteer training tier system is in progress and the September training tracks will align with these tiers. Additionally, work is progressing on two new formal annual deliverables aligned with Region 4AB: a regional training plan and a comprehensive local, regional, and statewide deployment plan.

IV. Regional Staff Updates

- a. Regional Public Health Nurse Hiring & Onboarding Update

Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

- i. Beth Haefner shared an update on the Regional Public Health Nurse position, announcing that Allison Brum has accepted the full-time role and will start on Monday, July 13th.
 - ii. The group discussed onboarding plans, including establishing a weekly rotating schedule to get Allison engaged with communities immediately.
 - iii. The coalition agreed that Sarah Lavari, Regional Epidemiologist, will remain the primary lead for MAVEN coverage, with Allison providing backup support as needed.
- b. Regional Epidemiologist Report-Out
 - i. Sarah provided an update on current disease trends, noting that tick-borne illnesses were the most prevalent MAVEN cases in June, with no World Cup-related outbreaks reported to date. Additionally, positive mosquito pools have been identified, and educational infographics are available for communities upon request.
 - ii. Sarah is currently reviewing the Community Health Assessment (CHA) report to ensure all necessary data is included. Feedback from the coalition is due by July 16th, ahead of a review meeting on July 20th.
 - iii. An updated Regional Epidemiologist Scope of Practice document will be circulated with the meeting minutes to help orient new local and regional staff. A comprehensive update on individual town projects will follow in late summer or early fall.
 - iv. A new dashboard tracking Opioid Settlement Funding disbursement by town was released this spring by the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS). The coalition is exploring the potential to compile a region-wide report on how these settlement funds are being utilized.

V. Public Health Excellence (PHE) Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Reporting & Spending Summary

- a. Aine Studdert-Kennedy provided a summary of FY26 PHE grant spending, including contracted inspectional support spending.

VI. Program / Project Debrief & Action Planning

- a. Regional Communications Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Next Steps
 - i. Beth facilitated a debrief on the FY26 Regional Communications SOP project, with coalition members noting that the in-person exercise was highly valuable for cross-town alignment. The group reviewed the project's After Action Report & Improvement Plan (AAR/IP), which highlighted strengths such as strong local trust and aligned messaging, while identifying gaps in early incident recognition, tool utilization, and regional role clarification.

Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

- ii. To integrate these findings moving forward, the deliverables have been shared with the Cambridge Health Alliance for FY27 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) planning in Region 4AB. Future efforts will focus on refining regional emergency communication roles and training staff on Web Emergency Operations Center (WebEOC) and Health and Homeland Alert Network (HHAN). Members are asked to adopt the SOP locally, utilize the communication flow matrix during multi-community emergencies, and participate in upcoming PHEP exercises to continue testing the protocols.
- b. Strategic Plan Activity Tracking Next Steps
 - i. Aine led a discussion on the next steps for tracking Strategic Plan activities and objectives, focusing on how the coalition will manage, assign, and monitor these tasks. The coalition agreed to review the full list of activities and delegate responsibilities at the September in-person meeting.
- c. Community Health Assessment (CHA) Report Discussion
 - i. Beth provided an update on the CHA project, noting that the draft report has been shared for final coalition review. Members are requested to submit feedback by July 16th, ahead of a review meeting on July 20th to finalize the coalition's input. The review should focus on data utility, organizational flow, and verifying local statistical accuracy.

VII. Community Updates

- a. There were no updates shared during the community updates portion of the meeting.

VIII. Meeting Closure

The next NC-8 Coalition meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2026, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

Melissa Ranieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stacey Lane seconded the motion.

Canton:

Dedham: Y

Milton: Y

Norwood: Y

Walpole: Y

Wellesley: Y

Westwood: Y

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 PM.



Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes



Documents used and referenced during the meeting:

NC-8 July 2026 Meeting Presentation

NC-8 July 2026 Monthly Pre-Read

NC-8 Regional Communications Standard Operating Procedure

NC-8 Regional Communications Standard Operating Procedure After Action Report & Improvement Plan

NC-8 FY2027-FY2031 Strategic Plan

NC-8 Community Health Assessment Draft Report