

Advisory Board

**Joan Taverna, Cohasset
Susan Sarni, Hingham
Drew Scheele, Scituate**



Advisory Board Alternate Members

Erica Souris, Scituate

South Shore Public Health Collaborative Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 2:00 pm

Attendees:

Voting members:

Susan Sarni, Hingham
Joan Taverna, Cohasset
Andrew Scheele, Scituate

Non-voting members:

Samantha Joyce, Regional Community Outreach Worker
Nicole Balaschi, Cohasset Health Agent
Ally Gittens Dias, BME Strategies

2:09pm Welcome & Roll Call

Joan Taverna motioned to open the meeting. Susan Sarni seconded.
Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham)

Meeting Minutes

- 1) Joan Taverna motioned to approve the May 20th Meeting Minutes.
Andrew Scheele seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

- 2) Joan Taverna motioned to approve the May 28th Meeting Minutes.
Andrew Scheele seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

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Coalition Updates

Ally Gittens Dias updated the Coalition on the recent Hoarding Disorder event, which saw an attendance of 30 participants despite inclement weather, with representation across multiple towns including from outside of the coalition. Feedback on the presentation is currently being gathered, and a recording will be made available on the website. Regarding hiring, two interviews for the Registered Sanitarian (RS) position and one Public Health Nurse (PHN) position are scheduled for June 22, 2026. The group discussed potential interview dates for other PHN candidates, with specific interest in June 23rd or 24th.

Regional Staff Data and Role Updates

Ally Gittens Dias reviewed regional staff data from March, April and May 2026. While activity levels fluctuate from month to month, the data confirms a strong ongoing need for social work services. Samantha Joyce, Regional Community Outreach Worker, provided an overview of her community engagement efforts, including a new monthly Regional Senior Center group starting in June, and her ongoing work with local partners like Root and Rise, Wellspring, and East Coast Recovery to address housing and opioid settlement funding needs. Additionally, efforts are underway to increase participation in "Honest Hour" programming, which is scheduled to launch in January 2027.

Samantha also discussed her role, noting that she has identified an internship to fulfill her Masters degree beginning in August and requested a reduction in hours to 15-18 hours per week. The Advisory Board gave preliminary approval this transition, however, a formal vote will be taken in the next Advisory Board meeting on Monday, June 15th.

FY2027 Workplan Planning

The Coalition discussed specific objectives for inclusion in the FY2027 Workplan. Based on previous discussions, the Coalition confirmed objectives and activities for Grant Administration, Sustainability, Communication and Engagement, and the Comprehensive Sharing of Services. Updates regarding performance measures and educational training requirements were clarified.

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The group confirmed the following Performance Standards and Elective objectives:

- Disease Control and Prevention
- Housing
- Maternal, Child, and Family Health
- Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
- Access to and Linkage with Clinical Care

3:16 PM Adjournment

The next coalition meeting will be on Monday, June 15, 2026 at 2pm.

Andrew Scheele (Scituate) motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Susan Sarni (Hingham).

Roll call vote: Joan Taverna (Cohasset), Susan Sarni (Hingham), Andrew Scheele (Scituate)

Motion carried: 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 3:16 PM.

Please Note: There will be no public participation in speaking at this meeting unless recognized by the chair.

Please note that the Advisory Board may act on items in a different order than they appear on this agenda. If it so votes, the Board may go into Executive Session during the meeting. Persons interested

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are advised that, in the event any matter taken up at this meeting remains unfinished at the close of the meeting, it may be put off to a continued session of this meeting without further notice.

This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.