

From: Mark Gottlieb <mark@phaionline.org>

Sent: Sep 25, 2025 15:45:54.000000000 UTC

Subject: Re: Tri-Towns in Berkshire County: Request for a Zoom Meeting

To: Ken Elstein <kenelstein@gmail.com>

Cc: Kate Silbaugh <kbsilbaugh@gmail.com>; Anthony Ishak <aishakpharmd@yahoo.com>; Mark Gottlieb <mark@phai.org>; Zachary Rich <zachary.rich@bmc.org>; Maureen Buzby <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>

Any evening other than Wednesday is good for me. We already have an NFG meeting at 6 on Monday, btw.

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On Thu, Sep 25, 2025 at 11:37 AM Ken Elstein <kenelstein@gmail.com> wrote:

Kate, Anthony, Mark, Zach,

I feel that we had good results last night meeting with the three towns "Tri-Towns" in Berkshire County: Lee, Lenox, and Stockbridge. Maureen and I both spoke in favor of them adding NFG to their draft Tobacco Regulations. Apparently, the three towns expect to approve identical regulations simultaneously.

Their Health Director seems to be solidly in favor of NFG, but has been hesitant for only three of his towns (of 13?) to do it "alone".

The outcome of the meeting is that they agreed to have a separate meeting to hear about tobacco regulations. (Pouches might also be discussed.) I and perhaps others would appear in person, others by Zoom.

Maureen and I were thinking of two complementary strategies:

- We could send a snail mail to all nine members of the three boards of health, and include whatever material we felt most valuable. In other words, give them a headstart on a group presentation. (At least one member left the meeting not even understanding what NFG actually is, because Maureen and I were brought in during the middle of the discussion.)
- We think we should create a recorded video including several of our experts, perhaps each speaking for five minutes. This could be viewed by all of the towns in Berkshire County (and anywhere else we send it).

To sort this all out, we would like to have all six of us on Zoom to hash this out and strategize together. Could we do something next week, perhaps at 8:00 PM if some could not meet earlier? (Note that Wednesday night is Yom Kippur.)

Thanks.

PS: Lenox is spelled with only one "N".

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