

Meeting Minutes
July 23 @ 9am

Chat Box notes in Italics

Attendance:

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- We will have a round of updates from partners
- Holly Fowler will give an update of the Food System Assessment – the consumer survey is going out soon
- There are some new people on the call today, please introduce yourselves

Wendy Garf-Lipp (United Neighbors of Fall River):

- We have transitioned to lunch in the park (breakfast and lunch)
 - o 7 of the sites have no ‘rain sites’ or plan – if it’s raining there are no meals
 - o We are looking for funding and support to make an option for these sites when it’s raining (about 700 kids)
 - About \$10,000 would cover this
 - This is through Greater Fall River Recreation partnered with Project Bread

00:07:54 *Northbound Ventures: Could tents work?*

00:08:37 *Northbound Ventures: How many days a week? 5?*

00:09:12 *Northbound Ventures: Is this part of the school’s regular summer feeding program?*

- We have tried all of the temporary options including tents and such, but it’s difficult with social distancing.
- We may source from Whitson’s if it’s possible to gain a better price, but maybe buy bulk packaged foods if not)

Jacob Miller (Senator Montigny’s Office):

- I am working for Senator Montigny, and been in touch with Erin, president from Project Bread to see how they can be more active in the region.
 - o We are trying to bring her to a future SCFPC Meeting

Kimberly Hoy (Mansfield Food Bank and Markets):

- Our Farmers market is looking for more vendors

Karen Schwalbe (SEMAP):

- Saturday is a tough day (busiest day), we can ask around for farmers

Marcia Picard (Fall River):

- In 3 weeks of its existence the market at Cardinal Medeiros is doing very well
- We were able to send a \$5k check to the Church of our Savior in Somerset for a new freezer

Kristi Marshall (Marshfield Farmers Market):

- We are currently still offering a curbside pickup option along with the market
 - o We are short of eggs, we're looking for a pork vendor as well, also maple syrup.

Adele Sands (Bristol Aggie):

- Let me check to see if we can source of eggs

Karen Schwalbe (SEMAP):

- I can probably find you a pork vendor, we can connect by email

00:22:19 *Kristi Marshall:* *Kristi.marshall@comcast.net*

Pam Kuechler (PACE):

- We have remained consistent with our stream of people
- We will be shifting some of our locations in August because our YouthBuild team is moving – we are looking for a location in the South end of New Bedford to replace the Kilburn Mill location.

Liz Wiley (MI):

- We are looking for a place to distribute the USDA boxes in Fall River, since the YMCA has to close for at least a couple of weeks

Sarah Labossiere (Cardinal Medeiros Farmers Market):

- Our Friday Markets have been slow, so giving out free veggies would not be good for the market

Maria / Wendy:

- There are several options to look into including Kennedy Park and Fonseca School

Karen Schwalbe (SEMAP):

- We are going ahead with the third farmers market in Fall River at Doolan Apartments on Tuesdays from 2-5pm -starting the first week of August

Liz Wiley (MI):

- There is a fisherman from the cape who wants to give to food pantries. He has a lot of extra Mackerel
 - o I'm not sure if he can fillet them
 - o Not sure how they are packaging them yet – I will get more information

Pam / Victoria:

- We have a good amount of fish right now, not sure if we need more
- Packaging would be important
- We would have to ask around to see if anyone's interested

00:32:08 *Kristi Marshall:* *Can he or someone freeze it?*

Adele Sands (Bristol Aggie):

- We are trying to write a Food Security grant for the extra cows that we have processed.
- Looking for information on who may be interested in the meat

Food System Assessment

Liz Wiley (MI):

- We have been working on the consumer survey for the Food System Assessment.
- It's now in Portuguese
- Also getting hard copies for those who don't have computers accessible

Holly Fowler (Northbound Ventures – Food System Consultant):

- The online version of the English are ready
- Paper versions for Spanish and Portuguese and English are ready to go.
 - o Currently putting the others online
 - We will be able to distribute the online version in all three languages
 - We are planning to have it open for 3 weeks, and then assess where we are at after that point
- I'm working with about a dozen other communities across the US, several have been using a new term for 'supplemental food services' are using the term instead of 'community food share'
 - o I just wanted to put that out there, that many communities are starting to use.
- We have started writing the narrative for the report, and are arranging interviews to add to this.

Liz Wiley

- We are hoping to put out a buyer survey

Holly:

- We have a lot of information from the farmer survey to inform the buyer survey – expect for the fishing community.

Liz Wiley

- If anyone has any connections of fishing community that is not the New Bedford Port Authority, please connect us or reach out

Karen Schwalbe:

- Don't forget the shellfishery, who have been hit hard
- I can connect you with Scott

00:37:15 *SLabossiere MiM-FallRiver: Maybe Consumer survey hard copy could go to SER Jobs and Bristol Elder Services and FR Housing Authority in Fall River?*

Holly Fowler:

- I heard the phrase 'Food Hub' coming out of Marshfield
- We have chatted with Farm Fresh Rhode Island, who has given a lot of great information about food hubs in the area

Kristi Marshall:

- Yes, we are having a conversation, and starting to explore that potential

Liz Wiley (MI):

- With the survey's we will be sending them out
 - o Look for them in the follow up emails from this meeting
 - o You should be able to copy and paste it from that email
- Also there will be links about the P-EBT cards in the email
- The link about Bridge loans for the Infrastructure grants will also be on the email

Rob Shaheen (New Bedford Food Service):

- Produce boxes are moving quickly, we have started to limit one box per car
- DESE sent out more guidance for the start of school
 - o We are moving ahead for the plan for all students coming back
 - Bussing is a big issue with social distancing of students

Carol (Damien's Pantry):

- We are doing ok, and will still be open for 2 days
- We are going to a Farmers Market in Wareham on Tuesdays to get donations from what is not sold
- Our numbers are pretty good, and increasing.

Karen Schwalbe (SEMAP):

- The list for the new HIP terminals came out, several in the area received one, including Round the Bend and Coastal Foodshed

Desa Vanlaarhoven:

- Our online shop has been doing well and connected to SNAP
- We are looking into getting into locations in New Bedford now that we have the HIP terminal

00:51:30 Pam Kuechler: I need to run to another meeting. Thank you everyone.

00:51:54 Northbound Ventures: We recorded the Plymouth stakeholder meeting. :)