

Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2020 @ 9am

Chat Box Notes are in Italics.

Attendance: 18

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- We'll have a quick meeting today. Let's start with updates.

Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly):

- Soup: 3 councils on aging took advantage.
 - o It being frozen make it a challenge
- We didn't take USDA boxes because of lack of refrigeration.
- We received Massachusetts Security money from the Food Insecurity Infrastructure Grant, to get freezers; we are to receive it in January.
- Our grab n' go lunches in Acushnet/Marion are going well.
- I've been working with Food is Medicine.
 - o They have a pilot program for healthcare, referring meal deliveries to a portion of their clients.
- Meals on Wheels had some natural attrition.
 - o We're down around 1400 meals now – was 1600 at its height, and 1200 pre covid. We'll see what happens with covid picking up.

Victoria Grasela (United Way GNB):

- Soup – not as many people are taking it as hoped.
 - o People aren't following through with said interest.
 - o Only 1 person reached out.
 - o Blount gave us 30 pallets of soup that we are paying to be stored, so we're paying for soup storage that is not being used.
 - o We're driving it places where people need it.

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- I think it's important to try and coordinate better for these types of things. That's the purpose of these meetings. We need to get people to commit.

Kim Smith (United Way of Greater Fall River):

- We need to find out the interest level

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

- Part of it is lack of infrastructure.
 - o We don't have a nimble infrastructure for storage.
 - o A small church for instance, can only refrigerate so much of a quantity.
 - o We need to do a better job of collaborating.



Ashley Brister (Sharing the Harvest):

- We'll be doing some construction for freezers and refrigeration in Dartmouth.

Kim Smith (United Way of Greater Fall River):

- The Central Catholic Church in Fall River is expanding its Community Center, including refrigeration space. I'll ask about freezer space as well.

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- Please send these resources to me and Portia so we can track these things in real time, and add them to FoodFinder.

Ashley Brister (Sharing the Harvest):

- I'll have a contact person for the Full Plate program.
- We are getting 2000 lbs. of pumpkin and squash, from a farm in Lancaster, which needs to be picked up.
 - o We'll store it at Sharing the Harvest Farm in Dartmouth.
 - o We have enough storage space with our greenhouse that it isn't a rush.

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- Rob Shaheen might be interested in squash, if he's doing dinner at the school.

Susan (Coastal Foodshed):

- Starting Friday November 20th, we'll be at Killburn Mills where we'll have our winter farmers market on Fridays.

Kim Smith (United Way of Greater Fall River):

- We will be moving our Monday meeting to every other week and will update the calendar invite shortly.

Liz W (Marion Institute):

- We might go every other week with this meeting too, since the holidays are bus.
 - o We can see how the listserv helps with communication too.