

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2020 @ 9am**

*Chat Box Notes are in Italics.*

**Attendance: 32**

**Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly):**

- We need volunteers for the Council on Aging lunches, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
  - o Need help bagging lunches
  - o Reach out to Joyce Dupont at [jdupont@gnbchc.org](mailto:jdupont@gnbchc.org), or me
  - o Next date is December 14<sup>th</sup> in the back parking lot of the Community Health Center in downtown New Bedford

**Liz Wiley (Marion Institute):**

- Today we will start with an overview of FoodFinder and Food Alert
- We've been working with Paul of Moonberry Tech who is on this call, and he'll be leading a demo

**Portia DePina (Marion Institute):**

- We also have up and running, the Food Alert Listserv
  - o It allows you to post in real time, to connect and streamline communication
  - o To sign up, please visit us at <https://www.marioninstitute.org/programs/sfpc/>
  - o Once you've registered, you will get an email with posting guidelines and instructions for setting up your user profile

*00:11:21 Patti Rego: Once you sign up on the website, and Portia approves you, you are ready to send emails to the group. All you need to do is send an email to [southcoastfoodalert@marioninstitute.org](mailto:southcoastfoodalert@marioninstitute.org) and hit send :)*

**Paul Constantine (Moonberry Tech):**

- Today I will be giving a demo on FoodFinder
- I was the most recent student at UMass to work on this, and transitioned to Marion Institute
- I'll be showing you the latest improvements we've made
  - o FoodFinder now has mobile and web enhancements
  - o We've optimized it for mobile devices
    - It's a single page application – for simple ability for user – you can see everything on 1 page
  - o There's a detailed view at the bottom, map view at the center, list view to the right
  - o The search field includes : food provider, city, zip – you can search by any of those
  - o There's also a search filter, i.e. if you type in "New Bedford" you'll be able to search fields, programs, providers and food types
  - o The dashboard is the second component: where you can enter and update your information
  - o Google Maps feature gives you the GPS for all the food providers

- It shows who accepts SNAP, HIP, WIC and other benefits – you can search by that function too – which providers accept these
- Right now there is no sign up on the website, but there will be; for now please email [sfpc@marioninstitute.org](mailto:sfpc@marioninstitute.org) and request to sign up there
- You get directed to sign up / enter credentials/ log in (it defaults to dashboard)
- You will only need 1 log in for multiple food providers, multiple programs
- Portia will send you an email with log in process information for now, manually for now – later you can sign on via our website
- Will add static page at top for tutorial
- If you have any feedback you can email me or Portia

00:20:45 Paul Constantine: <https://foodfinder.moonberrytech.com/>

00:20:54 Paul Constantine: [team@moonberrytech.com](mailto:team@moonberrytech.com)

**Ominique Garner (A.V. Rose Farms):**

- As a young, black family farmer, I'd like to know if black owned farms will be highlighted?
  - There should be a place or a way to distinguish equity-based farms: veteran-owned, black-owned and minority-owned farms, etc...

00:22:03 Holly Fowler at Northbound Ventures: *Update regarding the food systems assessment and food hub feasibility study: I have been conducting the one-on-one conversations with stakeholders over the past few weeks. I've spoken with subject matter experts in the seafood/shellfish industry (Dale Leavitt, Scott Soares), Bristol Aggie (Adele Sands), NBPS (Rob Shaheen), IAC (Helena DaSilva), NB Parks & Rec (Mary Rapoza), Coastline Health (Christine Sullivan), United Way (Michelle & Tory), HeartBeetsFarm (Stephan Murray), Southcoast Health (Rachel Davis), Greater New Bedford Community Health Center (Joyce Dupont), SEMAP (Karen), and Coastal Foodshed (Steph). I will continue to schedule with others even as we draft the full report. These conversations have been super valuable and I am appreciate to all who've take the time to speak with me. I will be presenting some of our findings from the farmer/producer survey this evening during the SEMAP annual meeting. More to come. Happy to say a word or two if we have time and if not, on a future call. :)*

**Buddy Andrade (Old Bedford Village Development Corp):**

- We've been busy
- We just received a \$10k grant from the Island Foundation
  - Our goal is to use it for technical work
    - Looking for someone who speaks Creole and Spanish
  - We're also going to buy a freezer
- We'd like to get some new data to help us with our food delivery program and our food bank
  - We want to get good food to people in need, as well as those who want healthier food options
  - This is not only a problem because of Covid – it's always been an issue for us in the South End

- 41 Bedford St. is our office's address for our food delivery and engagement program that we started in early May

00:27:04 Northbound Ventures: Re: listservs  
00:28:18 Northbound Ventures: The new listserv was informed by those managed by Tufts Friedman School. For those interested, check out COMFOOD and COMFOODJOBS listservs from Tufts too.  
00:32:15 Deirdre Healy: Is there a key for the icons?  
00:33:00 Deirdre Healy: It would be cool if black owned could be indicated with the icon  
00:34:42 Liz Wiley: Great idea Deirdre  
00:36:03 Sarah Labossiere: can a farmers market add season dates as well as hours and days open into the "hours of operation" section?  
00:36:23 Liz Wiley: Yes Sarah  
00:44:16 Christine Sullivan: if we run multiple sites, do we need different log ins for each location  
00:47:11 Liz Wiley: Good questions Christine - are they the same program but different locations?

#### **Sarah Labossiere (Mass in Motion):**

- We have new postcards that Karen and Olivia from SEMAP made
  - o I made an important edit on them: email link is different for Oakdale Farms
  - o I'll send to Portia and Meg so that we have new updated card to share with people
  - o On back side is HIP info, on other side is Delivery/Pick Up Info

#### **Karen Schwalbe (SEMAP):**

- SEMAP's annual meeting is tonight at 7 p.m.
  - o Holly will talk about the food assessment and food hub survey
  - o Presentation on Southcoast Rail
  - o SEMAP Awardees will be announced for 2020, including Sarah Labossiere at MIM, Chelsea Stephenson from WIC and Senator Montigny

01:01:56 Karen Schwalbe: <https://semaponline.org/event/2020-annual-meeting/>