

Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2021 @ 9am

Attendance: 13

Audio Link: <https://soundcloud.com/user-8563948/sfpc-regional-resource-meeting-6242021> (starts at 54 seconds)

Note: This document is largely paraphrased. Please see audio for direct quotes. Chat box comments identified as such below.

Present: Don (Greater Grow New Bedford), Marcia Picard (Groundworks Southcoast), Sarah Labossiere (Mass in Motion, Fall River), Ben Jones (UMass Corsair Network), Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly), Pam Kuechler (PACE), Maggie Chenard (United Way of Greater Fall River), David Perry (Greater Fall River Food Pantry), Olivia Hart (SEMAP), Stephanie Taylor (Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society), Christine Smith (SFPC, Marion Institute).

Don (Grow Greater New Bedford) growgreaternb@gmail.com

- Don showed pictures of the raised beds he put into the senior center and the food is gleaned and cooked by the facility. He is looking for cheap raised beds. BJ's has raised beds using PBC material but Don wants cedar cause worried about oils in plastic. Don is working with Youth Build in New Bedford who will build more raised beds.
- Looking for money to continue to do this work without being a 501c3, Lions Clubs. A suggestion was to try stores and businesses to "adopt a bed", but Don wants to develop web presence first.
- **Action:** Check out Velar Foundation – Velar Foundation in Rhode Island www.velafoundation.org.
- You do not need to be under a similar organization as you to be fiscally sponsored...a fiscal sponsor is doing the administrative work and financial work.
- **Action:** Tori from United Way sent an email to Don because they run a food pantry in New Bedford and interested in gardens/raised beds and PACE does fiscal sponsorship. PACE also run Head Starts. Contact me at Pamkuechler@paceinfo.org Executive Director of PACE, Inc...feel free to reach out.

Marcia Picard (Groundworks Southcoast)

- Friday, June 25 11:30 launch of 100 garden beds at Riverside Park with Dept. Rec. New Bedford
- Beds and greenhouse adopted by community members

Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly)

- Christine sent a survey out through southcoastfoodalert@marioninstitute.org from Food is Medicine, a state system and the survey is to understand where potential partnership are in the community around this issue is you are a food provider.
- Stephanie from Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society said she fits into several categories, so how should they fill it out? Reach out to group that put together survey.



- Sarah L- Question on category—Christine said to look under community level healthy food program broad—any food pantry and food market would fit here.
- Here is the website for FIM <https://foodismedicinema.org/massachusetts-fim-inventory>

Stephanie Taylor (Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society)

- The food delivery service going strong and want to take what they do and deliver food for Food is Medicine
- Stephanie is also taking the HIPPA class because for MVVS, food is healthcare
- Planning to target and expand into Falmouth and New Bedford areas.

Action: Contact Francie Randolph from organization called Sustainable Cape, Truro to hook up about Food is medicine for delivering food.

Sarah Labossiere (Mass in Motion, Fall River)

- 2nd week of Farmers Markets and seen a higher percentage of people coming in and paying with HIP.
- Tried to contact Nikita Viera at BCC to talk about Fair Food (to get that group to come into the Southcoast area) but Nikita is no longer in that position.

Ben Jones (UMass Corsair Network) Dartmouth

- Student Affairs put garden in place in Cedardale, providing fresh food to the college food pantry as 33% of students are food insecure. Ben will monitor garden to see if too much food, especially now when there are no students on campus so no food is wasted.
- Role- Director of Corporate Engagement and Institutional Partnerships-easier for external stakeholders for gateway to University, and collaborative grant writer.
- ben.jones@umassd.edu 508-209-3711 On campus, Mon, Wed, Friday. August 2 everyone back on campus.

We stopped the meeting early due to double-booked the zoom account. Please use southcoastfoodalert@marioninstitute.org to keep connecting.