



Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2021 @ 9am

Attendance: 11

Audio Link: <https://soundcloud.com/user-8563948/782021-sfpc-resource-meeting>

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

Present: Adele Sands (Bristol County Agricultural High School), Victoria Grasela (United Way of Greater New Bedford), Deirdre Healey (UMass Dartmouth Leduc Center for Civic Engagement), Marcia Picard (Fall River Public Schools/Groundworks Southcoast), Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly), Olivia Hart (SEMAP), Patrece (Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society), Stephanie Taylor (Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society), Christine Smith (SFPC, Marion Institute), Liz Wiley (Marion Institute).

Marion Institute/Southcoast Food Policy Council

- Food System Assessment is now at the designer/printer.
- SFPC is transitioning to developing the Community Advisory Board (CAB-AKA Steering Committee), comprised of 20-25 members from the areas of sustainable agriculture, aquaculture, retail food stores, wholesale food distributors, food processors, farmers markets, environmental justice, nutrition, and well-being, healthcare system, food industry workers, college and universities, K-12 public schools, emergency food providers, urban planning, policymakers and advocates, community activists, youth activists, resident and racial equity advisory who have lived experience of hunger.
- We are sending out 15 invitations from the different sectors above to join the CAB SFPC.
- We are looking for more members on the Community Advisory Board. If you would like to nominate yourself and nominate other people, please contact Christine at csmith@marioninstitute.org, and she will send you a form to complete.
- Work groups will be based on priority areas developed by the MA Plan of Action and the Food System Assessment.
- Patrece from Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society requested an application, and one was sent to him.
- Please continue to use the Southcoast Alert listserv.
- Should we continue bi-monthly zoom calls for the emergency food response when the SFPC Community Advisory Board will begin meeting, and work groups will also meet monthly (So two meetings a month at least for the SFPC) starting in September?
 - Two members suggested keeping it the same because it is informative and an excellent way to keep connected, allows more people to attend through zoom when it is convenient for them, and one suggested monthly

Victoria Grasela (United Way of Greater New Bedford)



- They are holding off on the mobile market until they can hire a new Hunger Commission Driver with a driver's license, Part-time, over 18, and can carry over 50 pounds. You can see the job description here: <https://unitedwayofgnb.org/careers>

Stephanie Taylor (Martha's Vineyard Vegan Society)

- Still delivering fresh vegetable and fruits, Food for Medicine partnership with Attleboro initiative, Vegan outreaching ongoing, they are accepting SNAP, they will be on 365 radio show, joining in on fundraisers on the Vineyard, they will have a table with the Cape Cod Neighborhood Support Coalition at the Barnstable County Fair, working with Island Grown who is donating fresh produce
- Liz said she would make an introduction when you are ready to Contact Francie Randolph from an organization called Sustainable Cape, Truro for the Food For Medicine
- Food is Medicine quarterly meeting is today. Christine Sullivan sent an email invite to Christine Smith.

Marcia Picard (Groundworks Southcoast)

- The June 25 launch of 100 garden beds at Riverside Park with Dept. Rec. New Bedford was a huge success.

Olivia Hart (SEMAP)

- Fall River Farmer's Markets are up and running
- We are switching out recipe cards depending on the season of the produce. Folks on the call asked for the recipe cards, so Olivia will reach out to Sarah and her connections at UMass Extension to see if she can get any more recipe cards.
- To order local food guides for Bristol, Plymouth, and Norfolk Counties, go to: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2Rhppg-DQ116TYnaXkbupQceHHpGY344uYFpP8xes53ZaxA/viewform>
- The Cape Cod local food guide is here: <http://www.buyfreshbuylocalcapecod.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021-BFBL-Guide-Final-June.pdf>
- USDA released a list of Farms that use SSNAP and SEMAP will post those to the website when they are ready

Deirdre Healy (UMass Dartmouth Leduc Center for Civic Engagement)

- The food pantry is closed for the summer and will be moved to a different location for the fall.
- <https://rules.house.gov/hunger-america-share-your-story> for anyone who has personal interest hunger stories to support McGovern's position.

Christine Sullivan (Coastline Elderly)

- The Food in the Park program, where seniors purchase lunches from schools and eat in the park, starts next week.
- The immigration center will serve lunches from local restaurants for older folks.
- Research congregate meals as numbers have dropped off and for the homebound to see who can better serve these populations.



Adele Sands (Bristol County Agricultural High School)

- The Agricultural school is finished, and they are only one of two agricultural schools in MA.
- In October is the School festival which brings over 10,000 people so if you want a tour, now is a better time to do it.

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