



OLD COLONY
PLANNING COUNCIL

Regional Food System Action Plan
Steering Committee Meeting, October 29, 2025

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 12 p.m.

Attendees

Bill Napolitano	Judi Barrett
Brenna Trollinger	Kevin Cogan
Charlie Brandon	Laura Striese
Christine Keller	Leonard Nelson
Courtney Rocha	Liz Shea
Daniela Andrade	Liz Wiley
Francis Basler	Lydia Sisson
Howard Randall	Mary Waldron
Jen Wiernicki	Nikki Galibois
Joanne Zygmunt	Rita Higgins
John Fay	Seani Silva
John Lebeaux	

Summary

	Status
RFP Process	• Completed - received over 50 requests for materials with 9 proposals submitted

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four candidates were interviewed, narrowed to two finalists • Barrett Planning Group selected and contracted
Consulting Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrett Planning Group (lead consultant) - Judy Barrett, Jill Slankas, and Brenna Trollinger • Lydia Sisson - farmer and co-founder of Mill City Grows • John LeBeau - former Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture • Team selected for local knowledge, expertise, and emphasis on consensus building
Community Advisory Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last meeting focused on Theme 2: Community Health and Wellbeing • Next meeting will focus on Theme 3: Community Self-Reliance • Approximately 15 consistent members participating • Working on improving the CARAT process and note-taking approach
Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization phase beginning • Monthly steering committee meetings will continue • One-on-one outreach, focus groups, and interviews planned • Public survey to be developed and distributed

Other topics

- Meeting schedule changes: November and December meetings will be combined into one meeting on December 10th at 11am (virtual) due to holiday conflicts
- Community Advisory Board process improvements: exploring options for shared documents/tools to allow participation outside of formal meetings
- Food system challenges identified by participants: land access for farming, food insecurity, need for better coordination and collaboration, nutrition education, and connecting different parts of the food system

Action items

- **Judy Barrett**
 - Schedule administrative call with OCPC team
 - Begin project mobilization phase
 - Review existing information and identify gaps
- **Joanne**
 - Update recurring meeting invite for December 10th
 - Send reminder email about schedule change
 - Post meeting recordings and information on project website
- **Rita**
 - Continue facilitating Community Advisory Board meetings
 - Explore options for shared document collaboration outside of meetings
- **OCPC, Marion Institute, and Plymouth County**
 - Meet with Barrett team to discuss administrative details
- **All Steering Committee Members**
 - Help promote upcoming public survey when available
 - Identify who might be missing from discussions
 - Participate in upcoming focus groups and interviews