FUND FOR NEW FOOD COOP’S COMMITTEE REPORT

April 14, 2026



April 14, 2026

By Wendy Fleischer, for the Fund for New Food Coops

The Park Slope Food Coop’s Fund for New Food Coops supports start-up food coops that rely on member labor. We applaud Mayor Mamdani’s goal of making healthy, affordable food accessible to all New Yorkers and we believe that the Park Slope Food Coop offers a proven, homegrown model for how to achieve that goal. We have developed a concept proposal to share with the administration and are hoping they will help New Yorkers create more coops like ours. The proposal suggests that the city address the three main barriers to opening a new co-op: real estate, seed capital and

financing for equipment and store outfitting.

For more information and for suggestions about how we might help this idea gain traction, please contact us at: loancommittee@psfc.coop.

ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT

April 14, 2026



March 24, 2026

By Sarah Chandler, for the Animal Welfare Committee

The PSFC Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) is a small nine-member group committed to helping our membership access information about the animal welfare standards of the products carried at the Coop. For over a decade, we have been researching products for sale at the Coop and producing guides for the membership to aid in decision--making.

Our most recent one was the 2025 Turkey Guide—our annual guide to all of the turkeys for sale in the Coop during Thanksgiving, as well as all the alternatives available. This year we had 10 vendors selling turkeys to the Coop, plus five plant-based roast options available. We also include fun produce facts—my favorite is that the Coop sold 3,700 pounds of Brussels sprouts in the two weeks before Thanksgiving!

The Animal Welfare Committee also tries to keep the membership informed of any significant animal welfare news through our social media feeds. Recently, for example, we wrote about new regulations in Switzerland requiring labels that disclose whether practices like castration, dehorning, tail docking or teeth clipping were carried out without anesthesia. We also wrote about federal policy changes under the Trump administration that reduce industry oversight—allowing faster assembly line speeds in certain slaughterhouses and eliminating safety advisory panels—and potentially increase the risk that more animals will be processed while still alive.

Most recently, the committee has been looking at news about shrimp and prawns. As evidence that shrimp and prawns can feel pain increases, large grocery retailers in the UK are beginning to change their sourcing practices. Traditionally, shrimp and prawns are killed using an ice slurry—a mixture of ice and water that slows their movement but leaves them potentially conscious as they slowly freeze or asphyxiate. In response, some retailers now require suppliers to adopt electric stunning, a method designed to render shrimp and prawn unconscious before death. These commitments also include ending eyestalk ablation, a practice in which one eye of a breeding female shrimp is removed to increase egg production. In the US, there has not yet been retailer pressure to change these practices.

Our committee has guides to beef, chicken, dairy milk, plant-based milks, animal testing, eggs, egg alternatives, pork, butter and fish. We are working on guides for ice cream, pet food, cheese, yogurt, cheese alternatives, butter alternatives and more! If you have questions about the animal welfare of any product the Coop carries you might find your answer in these guides or we always welcome member questions and suggestions! Please contact the AWC by emailing psfcanimals@gmail.com. You can also find the AWC on X and IG at @psfcanimals or Facebook at fb.me/psfcanimals. The AWC blog (the best place to view our guides) is psfcanimals.blogspot.com.

MEMBER WORKSLOT NEEDS

April 14, 2026



March 3, 2026

SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Food Coop is forming a committee of PSFC members with financial expertise to work in collaboration with the Coop's financial team. The Committee will provide professional advice on all aspects of the Coop's finances, strengthen financial knowledge and enhance financial management and administration.

As approved at the General Meeting on December 2, 2025, the Financial Advisory Committee will review the financial performance of, and economic conditions facing, the Coop and provide advice to the financial manager(s) on potential issues or concerns through its regular reports. The Committee will adopt clear financial benchmarks to help the broader understanding of the financial health of the Coop.

This committee is advisory only, intended to provide guidance on financial issues. Committee members should have a well-developed understanding of financial reporting, accounting and audits. They should represent the diversity of the Coop membership. Highly desirable skills include knowledge of the grocery industry's economics, advanced spreadsheet skills, economic forecasting, and knowledge of the fixed-income investment markets. Members should have a problem-solving orientation and be prepared to bring a professional and cooperative attitude toward solving disagreements.

For more information and how to apply, visit bit.ly/psfc_advisory.

PAGING SYSTEM SUPPORT

The Coop is looking to build a team of members to support our paging system for short-term projects on an as-needed basis.

Applicants should have robust technical experience working in the sound/music fields.

Responsibilities could include: audit of our multi-zone audio systems, triaging and repairing equipment, researching new equipment and upgrades, running wiring for speakers and amplifiers.

If interested, please send an email with your qualifications along with your name and member number to membership-office@psfc.coop with “Paging support team” as the subject line.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW MEMBERS EXPERIENCED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The mission of the committee is to provide education, research and advisement to ensure the Food Coop is aligned with its environmental policy to support “the best products and practices with regard to the health, safety and preservation of humans, animals and the overall biosphere.” You can learn more about the Environmental Committee’s history and activities here.

We are looking for members with relevant education and/or professional experience in environmental topics. Your work with the committee constitutes your Coop work shift requirement. To apply, fill out our web form.

CONCERT COMMITTEE

Ticket Sales/Check-In Person

The PSFC Concert Committee is seeking a member to help manage the door at ShapeShifter Lab for the monthly concert series. This person will be required to attend one full training session (which will count as a shift) and will be responsible for

greeting audience members, managing ticket sales, and other help as needed during the concert and cleanup after the event.

Content Producer/Video Editor/Graphic Designer

The ideal candidate will have experience creating short-form social media content. Their day-to-day responsibilities will include turning still images and/or video clips, ranging from professionally shot material to smartphone footage, into engaging reels and posts for Instagram and Facebook to promote the PSFC's monthly concert series.

They will also collaborate with the team to develop a new logo for the PSFC Concert Series and create a social media branding kit that the team can use to produce consistent, on-brand content going forward.

Outreach/MC

The PSFC Concert Committee is seeking an outgoing, engaging person to serve as the public-facing voice of the PSFC Monthly Concert Series. This role includes acting as the MC for each monthly concert held at ShapeShifter Lab from fall through spring.

In addition, the team member will help with public outreach to other Coop members to encourage more performer applications. The goal is to build a dynamic, continually evolving roster of performers that reflects the diverse demographics of the Park Slope Food Coop community.

Apply here.

ACTORS AND DIRECTOR NEEDED! (NOT FOR WORKSLOT CREDIT)

Wordsprouts (the PSFC's reading series) is hosting a staged reading of a play at the

Old Stone House on Wednesday, June 24. We're looking for Coop members to perform the roles of two young women, one Black and one white, and we'd also love to recruit a director.

The play, written by PSFC member Beth Harpaz, is called "Lafayette Travels through Time." In it, the sculpture of the Marquis de Lafayette at the 9th Street entrance to Prospect Park comes to life on July 4, 2026. Lafayette is accompanied by James Armistead, a Black soldier who is also depicted in the sculpture.

Two young women passing by tell the men that the democracy they fought for is in peril. Together, they try to figure out a way to save the republic.

Anybody interested in playing Shira, a 20something Jewish New Yorker, and Claudette, a twenty-something New Yorker of Haitian heritage? Anybody interested in directing? The production will be script in hand, with two rehearsals. No Coop work credit but participants will get a $50 cash honorarium (provided by the writer/producer not the Coop).

Questions or to apply, contact bethharpaz@gmail.com.

PLASTIC REDUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT

April 14, 2026



MEMBER SURVEY: REDUCING PLASTIC USE AT THE COOP

March 3, 2026

How concerned are you about plastic use at the Coop? How much does the amount of plastic packaging influence your buying choices? Would you find a list of the best member-tested, plastic-free products at the Coop helpful? These questions and more are waiting for you.

The PSFC Plastic Reduction Committee invites all members to participate in its work by way of a five-minute (or less!) survey.

Take the survey HERE.

Members voted overwhelmingly to establish our committee in July of last year, indicating a shared concern about the amount of plastic used at the Coop. Since then, we have been busy observing plastic use in our Coop's aisles, brainstorming solutions together and researching plastic reduction efforts in coops from Albany to Ottawa to Seattle. Now we are looking to you, our fellow worker-owners, to help us prioritize and plan our next steps!

The survey is anonymous and confidential, and we invite all members to contribute. (You can also ask your kids what they think.) Our only request is this: Express yourself! To maximize participation, the survey will remain live until the end of May 2026. We will report on results as soon as they are compiled and analyzed.

If you have any question(s) about the survey, please address them to the Plastic Reduction Committee at reduce.plastic.psfc@gmail.com. And, as always, feel free to share other thoughts or ideas through that email as well.

The Plastic Reduction Committee thanks you in advance for your participation!

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE EDUCATION SQUAD (ITES) REPORT

April 14, 2026



January 20, 2026

By M.J. Williams for the ITES

The International Trade Education Squad (ITES) seeks Coop member involvement in two exciting opportunities.

WERE YOU AT THE 1999 WTO PROTESTS?

Did you participate in the World Trade Organization (WTO) demonstrations in Seattle in 1999? Would you be willing to share your personal experiences and reflections with us? Your stories and commentary could enrich educational resources the ITES is developing in conjunction with the release of the new, documentary film “WTO/99,” produced, in part, by PSFC member Debra McClutchy.

If you would like to share your experiences from the WTO protests, please email us

at coopites@gmail.com no later than January 30, 2026.

JOIN OUR SQUAD!

The ITES is also seeking new members. We work collaboratively to inform Coop members about trade deals, tariffs and related trade issues that shape our politics, impact our lives and affect the Coop. Squad members take on tasks that reflect their individual interests and abilities as to international trade and together contribute to ITES's educational resources and programs.

The ITES meets every six to eight weeks via Zoom when we discuss upcoming tasks, such as writing articles for the *Linewaiters' Gazette*, running social media, inviting guest speakers for community forums, organizing other educational programs and preparing discussions for presentation to the GM.

The ITES does not require its members have any previous experience in the subject area. We are looking for committed individuals who are interested in sticking up for working people, protecting the environment, calling out systemic corporate abuse, and working cooperatively and creatively to educate their fellow Coop members.

If you are interested in joining the ITES, please email us at coopites@gmail.com.

Please also follow us on Bluesky at: @psfc-trade.bsky.social.

EQUITY, ACCESS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE REPORT

April 14, 2026



Park Slope Food Coop Demographic Survey: Report to the Membership, December 2025

By Jordan Dunn, Vikas Hiremath, Dory Thrasher and the Equity, Access and Community Committee

The Equity, Access and Community Committee of the Park Slope Food Coop (EACC) is pleased to present our first report on the results of the Coop's first-ever demographic survey. This data will guide policy and programmatic changes to make the Coop more equitable and accessible.

This article is a summary of the EACC's initial report on the results of the survey. The initial report is available here. It presents descriptive statistics, offering a snapshot of the demographic breakdown of the Coop. In future reports, we will discuss the interac-

tion between demographic factors, compare our demographic makeup to that of Park Slope and Brooklyn, and propose questions for future research.

RESPONSE RATE AND REPRESENTATIVENESS

The web-based survey ran from April through June 2025 and was completed by 4,711 members. This is 27 percent of the Coop's 17,145 members.

To understand representativeness, we compared survey results to data that the Coop has on all members: zip code and retirement status. We found that the share of survey respondents per zip code is similar to the entire Coop membership: for instance, 35 percent of survey takers reported that they live in 11215 (the Coop's zip code), compared to 34 percent of all Coop members. Similarly, 14 percent of survey respondents reported that they were retired from their Coop workslot, compared to 15 percent of the total Coop population. These comparisons give us confidence that the survey is reasonably representative.

WHO WE ARE

The demographic survey asked questions about Coop members, including age, gender, length of membership, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, religion, household composition, education, household income and other characteristics.

Years of membership: Most survey respondents have been Coop members for between 1 and 5 years (29 percent), followed by 11 to 20 years (22 percent). Twenty-two percent of survey respondents had been members for more than 20 years, while 10 percent had been members for less than a year.

Age: The largest share of Coop members are between 30 and 39 years old (29 percent), and about half (51 percent) are between 30 and 49. About 10 percent are 70 and older.

Gender: The Coop skews more female than male, with 63 percent of survey respon-

dents identifying as female (both cisgender and transgender) and 31 percent identifying as male (both cisgender and transgender). Five percent of respondents indicated that they were nonbinary, gender nonconforming, gender fluid or intersex, and one percent preferred not to answer. Of all respondents, 2 percent indicated that they were transgender.

Sexual orientation: Seventy-one percent of respondents indicated that they were straight or heterosexual, 17 percent indicated that they were gay, lesbian or bisexual, 10 percent identified as queer, and 3 percent provided another description of their sexual orientation.

Race and ethnicity: The survey offered multiple categories and allowed people to select all that applied to them; people could also write in an answer. Seventy-six percent selected White or Caucasian; 9 percent multiracial and/or multiethnic; 8 percent Asian or Pacific Islander; 3 percent Black, African American or African; 2 percent Latino/a, Latine, Latinx, or Hispanic *or* Indigenous, Native American or Alaska Native; and 1 percent Arab, SWANA, Middle Eastern or North African.

Religion: This question also allowed people to select multiple checkboxes or write in an answer. A little over half (51 percent) of respondents who answered this question selected “no religion, atheist, or agnostic,” 21 percent selected Jewish and 11 percent selected Christian (any denomination). The remaining respondents selected another religion, selected multiple religious identities in combination or wrote in an answer.

Household composition: The average number of people per household is 2.12. Thirty-one percent of respondents indicated that they live in single-person households, 42 percent live in 2-person households and 25 percent live in 3- or 4- person households. About one quarter of respondents said they had children living with them.

Education: Thirty-eight percent of survey respondents hold a bachelor’s degree and 58 percent hold a graduate or professional degree. Four percent indicated that they had a high school diploma, some college but no degree or attended technical school.

Income: About half of survey respondents (48 percent) have household incomes over $150,000/year, and over two-thirds of Coop membership (68 percent) have a household income over $101,000/year. An equal number of Coop members have household incomes of $55,000 or less as those with incomes of $350,000 or higher (10 percent in each group).

For the full report, which contains greater detail about survey findings and discusses methodological caveats and survey limitations, please visit our committee’s website.