

QUESTION REGARDING CURBSIDE PICKUP

May 17, 2020

I have a question that I haven't seen addressed in any Coop communications, that I was hoping you could cover in an upcoming edition. Has the Coop considered online/e-mail ordering with curbside pickup and payment? [REDACTED]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

May 17, 2020

Just got home from shopping the 3rd time since the COVID crisis took our Coop and changed it—hopefully not irrevocably. I wanted to express my deep thanks to the entire staff of the Coop. Today my heart really went out to you and what all of you are doing so that we members can continue some aspect of our lives in a normal way. Meaning the ability to have access to the best food NYC can offer. If we could start a fund, I would have it so that we can send the whole lot of you away to a resort so that you can decompress when this ordeal is finally over. Those who can offer any kind of health services to the PSFC staff should be welcomed to do so. This has been a huge impact on all of us, but especially those in our immediate circle who have kept the ball rolling. Thanks so much.

Regards,

Bruce Zeines

RESPONSE TO JOE HOLTZ 4/12 NOTICE

May 17, 2020

Has the Coop considered taking shopping orders to be able to expedite more transactions? It could work essentially like the other e-commerce based companies doing this. Perhaps, with some exceptions:

No produce (where people tend to be most picky about their food choices).

All other products okay.

Must give the Coop three days (or more) lead time to process orders.

All orders to be picked up at designated times with strict adherence to when groceries are picked up. Coop not responsible if your ice cream melts.

Picking up groceries can be done outside under a tent.

Jeff Wolfman

SENIOR HOURS

May 17, 2020

GREETINGS,

Thank you so much for the thoughtfulness that went into planning a time for seniors to shop. I hope that many were able to get the message about Thursday 4/9/20, I didn't see it until the same day.

After spending three hours on line and one-and-one-half hours inside I had no inten-

tions of coming back this Thursday.

But I hope the strategy will be in place at least 1 more week so that I can make good use of it.

Thanks again for honoring seniors in that way.

Peace and be well,

Nina

TO THE COOP

May 17, 2020

TO THE COOP,

Nancy and I fled Park Slope to Vermont since I am less than a year from 80 years old. Our sons insisted that we leave. And we are so fortunate to have support in Brooklyn, our tenant who has kept track of our mail-texting us photos of what is important and sending us packages—and here in Vermont where neighbors have been shopping for us.

However, I would like to mention how we feel about the Brattleboro Food Coop. Yes, their prices are much higher than those at the Park Slope Food Coop. In fact, when we shop there in normal times, Nancy will not allow me to enter the Coop with her because of my constant complaints about their prices.

But during this period, they have been great, making us feel safe shopping there. We call in to make an order—no more than 12 items (however, we were allowed to order 15 items). We then drive 10 miles to the Coop, open our trunk and a worker comes

out with our order in a cart and puts it into our trunk.

Perhaps the PSFC can work out something similar. Shoppers could come to the Coop with bags, boxes, carts or a car and our staff could come out with an order and transfer the order. For those who approve of this, the wait would be much shorter. And I think all would feel safer.

Lew Friedman

IDEA

May 17, 2020

Can we have a loosening of designated non-member shoppers for senior citizens? We are more afraid of contact, some of us have disabilities that allow us to shop normally but we cannot stand on lines for a long time, we are very vulnerable, many have underlying conditions.

Please get this info to the powers that be!

*Thank you,
Emily Cohen*

SENIORS

May 17, 2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have many elderly friends, and am myself over 65 years old. During this crisis would it be too complicated to either allow us to shop by going ahead of the long line to get in, or possibly by setting special hours when we could come and thereby avoid the younger, hardier population altogether?

Thank you very much for keeping the store stocked, and for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Laurie Callahan

CONTROLLING ENTRY TO THE COOP – A WAY THAT IS FAIR AND LEGAL

May 17, 2020

We should not be lining people up on the sidewalk, even if they are 6 feet apart. It is a public health hazard and unfair for members who cannot stand for extended periods of time.

Two recommendations:

- 1) Have members call in (or go online) and select a shopping time. Each household can shop at the Coop once every two weeks. Members have an hour to shop and must arrive within ten minutes of their scheduled time.
- 2) Members who want to show up “a large” can sign in with their phone number and get a text when there is room in the Coop. They have ten minutes to get to the door to enter; they also have an hour to shop. Shopping “at large” does not count against a household’s once-every-two-week rule.

That's it. My daughter said it's good idea; maybe you'll even use it?

Robert Berkman

THANK YOU!!!

May 17, 2020

DEAR COOP TEAM,

I'm writing to extend my immense gratitude for all you have been doing to keep the Coop open, the shelves stocked, and the environment safe, efficient, welcoming and positive. The Coop has been a haven for us during these uncertain days, and I know you have been making significant individual sacrifices and investments. It's simply amazing—a great testament to community and to the human spirit!

If there is a chance to support remotely, please let me know. Wishing you all wellness and calm.

*With thanks,
Laurie Smolenski*

WHY SAD?

May 17, 2020

Why sad?

Silly to be sad. Stop it!

To save one life is worth all sacrifice.

That is how the crisis is met.

Allen

DEAR EDITORS,

May 17, 2020

I would like to suggest that the Coop consider instituting a system where all members are randomly assigned two two-hour time periods for shopping each month for the duration of the current health crisis. This could solve the problem of people waiting in line for hours as the Coop does its best to keep people from infecting each other. There should be an appeals process for people who have verifiable reasons for being unable to shop during their randomly provided windows.

Regina Weiss

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

May 17, 2020

DEAR EDITORS,

Though I live only a block away, I haven't shopped at the Coop for many many days now. It's been 6 a.m. senior shopping at Union Market for me. There are many things at the Coop that I really can't get elsewhere, but the long line, snaking up Union, along 7th, and down President, is a sure way to spread the virus. It is also a threat to

other people in the community who have to navigate that sidewalk stretch. Since I am 77 years old, with a heart condition, I have decided not to chance it.

However, I have a thought that might work for the rest of the Coop population.

Set up a schedule that allows members to choose a time slot once every two weeks. It could be done as some kind of Doodle or Evite, so you go online and plug into Shopping, pick, say, Tuesday, March 24, 11:30-12:30, get a “ticket” either to print out or show up on your phone. Each slot would be for 1 hour, each slot would accommodate only X number of shoppers in the store at a time, and if you miss your slot, you sign up again.

It would require working out the math. Something like this: 10 slots per day X 14 days = 140 slots. Coop has 17,000 members. Divide 17,000 by 140 = 121 shoppers per slot.

I don’t know how many are currently being allowed in at a time now—121 may be way too many, in which case reduce “tickets” to once a month: 280 slots = roughly 60 shoppers per slot. You get the general idea.

The virus is going to be with us for many months to come. And the quarantine may end for a while, then be reimposed if the virus comes back. If we institute a system along the lines I propose, this would reduce pressure on Coop members and staff alike, and we could all shop quickly and safely.

Martha Cameron

SHOPPING ORGANIZATION EMERGENCY PLAN

May 17, 2020

DEAR COOP MEMBERS,

You guys may want to consider staggering entries based on last names. Give the older and more at risk people entry first in the morning. For the rest of the day schedule for example people with last names A-K go shopping Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and last names L-Z go shopping Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. Sunday's could rotate. Also stagger the hours, everyone is home. A-C shop for three hours and D-F next three hours, etc.....

Just a suggestion. Thanks and stay safe!

Willow Rabinovich

SUGGESTION OF CHANGES FOR THE AGING POPULATION

May 17, 2020

Hi,

I wanted to write about this concern to the Coop and do not know whether this is the right email to address it to. Please relay it to the proper department in regards to this matter.

It is already difficult for the group of older adults to shop as is before the Covid-19 and many fear the long line waits and out of stock shelves we are currently experiencing. Some supermarkets are putting in place a time slot for the elderly to do their shopping https://www.dailyiowegian.com/news/local_news/stores-adjust-hours-to--give-elderly-exclusivity/article_32f743f6-6883-11ea-b60e-0fb74cfe8a10.html

I would like to HIGHLY SUGGEST that the Coop allow an allotted time for the aging population/those at high-risk members to exclusively come to the Coop to do their shopping as this would alleviate their worries and stress and be able to get basic food and necessities to outlast this pandemic.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Jenny