

Foodtown & Fresh Grocer Contract Negotiation Update From President Harvey While

As you know, Local 1262 is currently in Contract Negotiations with your Employers for your contract that expired January 16, 2021. As in the past, your current contract has been extended until these negotiations are finalized. ***That means that all terms of that agreement remain in full force and effect, safeguarding your rights and your benefits. Additionally, any salary increases that are negotiated in the new contact will be retroactive.***

Extending your contract and instituting the retroactive clause allows us the flexibility and time necessary to negotiate the very best contract possible for you.

Local 1262's officers, staff and your Negotiating Committee (comprised of long-time rank-and-file members from your stores) met with Foodtown representatives on Monday, January 25 to formally launch negotiations. Local 1262 provided your Contract Proposals (which we obtained from our members during the Contract Proposal Meetings held in your stores last month).

Based on the feedback Local 1262 members provided during our Contract Proposal Meetings, the primary focus of these negotiations was to:

MAINTAIN health and welfare benefits
SUSTAIN the pension program (s)
And **INCREASE** wages.

As anticipated, one of the most difficult aspects of these negotiations centered around health care. As you are probably aware, health care costs nationwide continue to skyrocket all across America. Local 1262 recognizes this but also knows how important health care benefits are to our members and their families. As such we are determined to hammer out the very best coverage and plans possible.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Local 1262's officers and staff – as well as your employers – are obtaining additional information from our actuaries and other professionals and will reconvene in the near future. Your Contract Negotiation Committee will be a part of that meeting and will have input and feedback throughout the day.

Local 1262 will continue to provide our members with updates on Contract Negotiations in several ways:

- Via regular telephone, text and email updates to your Contract Report Committee Members (their names are posted in your stores and we urge you to speak to them often)
- Via Local 1262's Website (www.ufcw1262.org) and our Hotline (1-888-GET-1262)
- Postings in your stores and/or mailings to your home, when appropriate

Most importantly, we have established a Dedicated Text Messaging Program for our Foodtown and Fresh Grocer members for these negotiations.

To join, text foodtownupdates to 83071

Even if you already belong to Local 1262's Text Messaging Program, we urge you to join this Dedicated Text Message Program that is solely focused on these negotiations.

Local 1262 has always – and will continue to – put the needs of our members first. These negotiations will be no different. We intend to fight for you until we reach a successful outcome that provides you with the Health & Welfare benefits, Pension security and Wages you deserve.

If you have any questions regarding negotiations contact your Union Representative at 1-800-562-6913

UFCW Local 1262
Harvey While, President
John Colella, Secretary-Treasurer — Michael DeMartino, Recorder