



New Haven Food Policy Council

Meeting Minutes March 21, 2012

Members present: Tagan Engel, Anika Johnson, Monique Centrone, Maria Tupper, Frank Mitchell

Affiliates present: Christine Dang Vu, Steve Munno, Jacqueline Lewin, Anne Somsel, Vrinda Manglik, Catherine Bradshaw, Laura Mattaliano, Amy Coplen, Sharon Taylor, Ellen Carter, Brad Armstrong, Melissa Montosa, Alison James, Cara Donovan, Billy Bromage, Grant Damon

Welcome - Meeting facilitator Anika Johnson

New Business-Alders & visitors

- SNAP outreach coordinators attended for the first time

CEIO Grant award update

First contracting meeting was held last week with CitySeed & NHFPC; two year grant; have advisory team from grant network; CEIO will do organizational assessment of both organizations; aim is to do outreach in NH on food issues at grassroots level

- Committee formation and trainings
 - CEIO wants several members/affiliates of FPC to form advisory committee
 - Monique, Catherine, Jacque, Maria, Anika
 - Time commitment: possible monthly meetings (including trainings on diversity, leadership, storytelling which will be available over the next two years)

Food Summit & Big Food

- Will be held during "Food Month New Haven" (a new idea of the committee)-October 2012
 - Will Allen will be here from Growing Power in Milwaukee; may engage him as speaker
- Planning meeting updates-overview of proposed ideas
 - Decisions being made about overall design, name, etc.; what will people take away from the conference? What actions can they take afterward?
 - Two-day event; first at City Hall (more focused on leaders), second at Peabody Museum (more focused on community)
 - Engage and activate people on Food Action Plan's three core goals
 - Community engagement aim: Connected to CEIO (see above)
 - "Open Space" concept will be used—allow participants to participate in setting agenda
 - Need funding; marketing
 - People can stay informed and make suggestions via email if can't attend meetings
- Next meeting: April 3, 2012

Food Action Plan (FAP) update/projects moving forward

- Editing almost done; last minute additions on economic development of good data from Town Green
 - Increasing restaurants was #1 recommendation in survey (despite 161 restaurants in existence; pull in \$160m/year (2009 number); “churning”—new restaurants open, old ones close, adds to interest in downtown district; of 600 participants in survey, the highest priority was for more restaurants; Town Green hired “economic prosperity” coordinator, Tagan asked her for a “food business resource” section on their website—resource for all neighborhoods (e.g., how to become healthy corner store)
 - If anyone interested in working on this, please come forward!
- Committee will do final edits this week and next; FAP will then be ready for FPC to review
- Elderly Food Access section of FAP--survey being done, outreach to be planned
 - Intern working on the project
 - Grant to hire youth in summer to go door-to-door to discuss SNAP, farmers’ markets; has potential to increase quality of food senior people can access
 - Difficult to get seniors on SNAP/FNMP
- Food reclamation investigation of possibilities for getting leftover food to bring to soup kitchens from Yale dining halls and other food institutions
 - Two groups doing this: Food Runners and Kitchen-to-Kitchen
- Urban Agriculture Working Group--to convene shortly
 - Issues to work on: Will Allen (Growing Power) coming to New Haven
 - Purpose: Bring together all the groups in New Haven working on urban ag
 - Billy, Jacquie, Brad, Cara interested

Defining NHFPC Affiliate Membership - discussion

- Affiliates are from key groups which should be represented on FPC, but don’t live in New Haven, or official membership is full
- Working to define what the role of affiliates would be
 - Expectation to participate in working groups, initiatives, committees, facilitation
 - FPC should find out more about the potential member; why interested in being an Affiliate; FPC will keep record of affiliates/interests
 - Attendance would not be mandatory, obviously; relationship should be flexible
 - Could draw up memorandum of understanding?
 - No limits on who can be affiliated; should look at what agencies are missing as affiliates; ask for time commitment (e.g. one year affiliation)
 - Charge for affiliation?
 - Possible for affiliates but not for members
 - Could exclude certain groups we do not want at table
 - We’d have to set guidelines for who could be affiliated (what kinds of corporations would we not want as affiliates?)
 - How to decide who can be affiliate?
 - Put together list of skills we need (e.g. legal; grocery stores; distributors; early care; school food; restaurants)
 - Mission alignment—does the mission of potential affiliate work with our mission?
 - Work to be done: (Roberta will do)
 - Look at letter
 - Draft policy for membership

- Look at previous lists generated on whom to invite

NHFPC member search update

- Searching for one new member now
- Anika, Tagan, Christine will work on drawing up guidelines for new membership
- Tagan reached out to Sandra from Sandra's Next Generation Restaurant on Congress Ave.
- Frank Douglas from Ward 2 is our new Alder liaison

Youth coalition update

- James is our official member
- Challenging to organize youth from various schools and how to connect with them
- Citywide Youth Coalition could be a source for members; school nurses could help us find members (Laura Mattaliano will connect us)
- Citywide Youth Summit happening in May—good connection for FPC to find youth to engage in FPC
- Need activity for them—more of a motivation to come to meetings
 - Engage them in garden clean-up through Evolutions—part of Peabody Museum

NHFPC Facilitator Schedule: May 16: **Tagan** June 20: **Monique**, July 18: **Fred**, September 19: **Frank**, October 17: **Anika**, November 21: **OPEN**, December 19: **OPEN**

Upcoming events

- Youth Coalition Garden Clean-up Friday March 23- Ivy Street Garden, Newhallville
- New England Farmers Union & NHFPC Farm Bill Talk – Thursday March 29, 4-6 @ The Grove
- New Haven Farms fundraiser--Saturday April 14, 5pm @ Bentara; live music; www.newhavenfarms.org
- April 28, 2012: food coalition in New Haven is sponsoring film “Farmageddon” at Barnard School (corner of Ella Grasso Blvd and George St).
- Wednesday March 28th, film showing “Cafeteria Man”, at Peabody Museum 5:30 pm

Next Food Policy Council Meeting
James-April Facilitator
Wednesday April 18, 2012 - 8am - 9:45am
City Hall Meeting Room #3