



TJ

New Haven Food Policy Council

Meeting Agenda May 18, 2011

Members Present : Tagan Engel, Roberta Friedman, Monique Centrone, Diana Richter, Maria Tupper, Frank Mitchell, Moses Boone

Affiliates and guests present: Joel Toleman, Antonio Ramirez, Joseph S. Jr, Solanlly Canas, Chastity Berrios, Alycia Santilli, Kathryn Schneider, Anne Somsel, Sung In Johnson, James Beech, Nicole Berube, Melissa Waldron, Catherine Bradshaw, Laura Mattaliano, Steve Munno

Staff: Ashley Kremser

Topics

CT Food Policy Council meeting Update

- Local food purchasing policy
- Tagan, Monique and Roberta went to the CT State Food Policy Council meeting.
 - Ideas and resources were exchanged to help those in the state who want to start a Food Policy Council in their city. Other topics discussed included how to better collaborate on a local and state level.
 - There are only 2 officially established Food Council, New Haven and New London, Windham is well on their way.
- The CT FPC meetings are 2nd Thursday of the month and held in Hartford. A New Haven FPC representative should attempt to attend, at least once every other month.

Food Policy Plan

- Overview of FPP now
 - It is broad plan that addresses food access and availability in New Haven. It also has recommendations for increasing access to SNAP and WIC benefits.
 - A subcommittee has been researching existing Food Policy Plans in the US and is drawing ideas from them to apply to New Haven's.
- City Sustainability Plan – Food sustainability group
 - The office of sustainability is drafting and sustainability plan for New Haven. NFPC will be heading up the food piece of the sustainability plan.
 - The goal is to complete the food policy plan and take highlights of the plan for inclusion into the sustainability plan. Measurable impacts related to the plan need to be identified.

- New Timeline for Drafting the Food Policy Plan
 - Is now based on timeline for sustainability plan; draft due at the end of the summer
- CARE funding for NHFPC Food Policy Plan
 - We have been awarded a grant from CARE in the amount of \$5,000 to work on Food Policy Plan. CARE was awarded a larger grant from the Kresge foundation. Tagan and Alycia will be meeting next week to see how the Food Policy Plan ties into CAREs work.
- How to allocate funding – Is it ethical to award one of the council members money to work on food policy plan or should we contract outside the council.
 - This is not city money, it is money that was awarded by a private institution to work on the food policy plan.
 - Suggestions:
 - If CitySeed are the fiscal sponsors maybe a subcommittee could be formed to work with CitySeed to contract a person who would work on the plan. If the person is subcontracted through CitySeed, some of the conflict would be alleviated.
 - If subcontracted through CitySeed, a collaborative process should be established with CARE to supervise contractor.
 - A job description should be created and an open application process should be coordinated. The available position can be advertised to the community and the council.
 - If standards are created regarding the work that is expected from council members, it might facilitate contracting council members to work on projects, if the work required of the position goes beyond the scope of what is required from a council memeber.
 - It seems like hiring someone who has the knowledge, background and capacity to work on the plan without much assistance would be the most efficient use of the funds; this might be a council member or affiliate.
 - Vote: Ask the mayor’s office for their recommendations on whether a council member should receive a portion of the money from CARE to draft a portion of the food plan or if they advise that an outside consultant be contracted. All in favor: unanimous.
 - Community Foundation funding options – Lee Cruz indicated that there was an interest in potentially funding *mediated* meetings that bring in key players to policy plan.
- Process to complete FPP
 - Meeting next week with CARE to discuss how to proceed and collaborate on the FPP.

- Action Items:
 - A subcommittee needs to be formed and to draft a job description.
 - Talk to Mark Winnie about this issue
 - Contact the mayor's office to inquire about conflict of interest

Grants meeting

- There are two Federal grant opportunities: Community Food Project Grant and Hunger Relief Grant
 - Ideas on the table include neighborhood food hubs housed in non-profits. Deadlines are in the fall. Food Policy Council would serve in a collaborative capacity and will be included in these grants, but is not the entity applying for the grant.
 - Food map work might tie into these grants. Further discussion is needed.

Youth Coalition

- Establish meeting times for city wide group
- Tagan went to Common Ground last week and started laying the groundwork for Youth Coalition meetings. The Youth Coalition currently includes students from both Common Ground and High School in the Community. Ideally the meetings would have representatives the council and the members of the Youth Coalition present.
 - The New Haven Public Library has been set as the meeting location. The group will meet once a month. A convenient meeting day and time for students needs to be established.
 - Students have expressed excitement about projects such as the Food Map and the Corner Store Initiative.
 - Outreach to the Sound School regarding the coalition should potentially occur in the fall.

Healthy Meals Ordinance

- Final language will not be ready until the fall. Supporters in the community need to be identified.

June Annual Report

- Tagan, Anne and Ashley will work to accomplish this.

Advisory Council for CitySeed's Vista

- CitySeed requests the FPC serve as an advisory council to their Vista staff. Meetings would be quarterly.
- Vote: Food Policy Council will serve as an advisory council for CitySeed's Vista staff. All in favor: unanimous.

Updates& Events

- Healthy Corner stores first launch May 17th, Second Launch May 26th 10am. Second launch will take place at the Clinton food center near Clinton School. Next Wednesday neighborhood canvassing (with coupons for \$2 off any purchase of \$5 of healthy food) will take place if anyone is interested in volunteering.

- June 11 – Imagination Conversation – Urban Food and Urban Ag. – affiliated with Arts and Ideas
- Tuesday, May 31 – Hunger Awareness Day.
- Potential collaboration with Bioregional Group (Domingo) on food mapping component.

Next Food Policy Council Meeting
Wednesday June 15th 8 - 9:45am
City Hall Meeting Room #3