



New Haven Food Policy Council

Meeting minutes

June 20, 2012

Welcome - Meeting facilitator Anika Johnson

Present: Monique, Jacquie, Anika, Fred Cofrancesco, Billy Tagan, Cara, Catharine, Brad, Jillian, Frank Douglas, Mariah, Madison Wierzle, Kate Balentine (CT Food Bank), Jennifer Daddio (Elm City), Maria, CEIO lady (name?), Nicole, Luray, Melissa Waldrom

CEIO – grant – working on identifying how they can help us do our work better

Grant moving along slowly. Able to provide many different kinds of support—currently figuring out what support will be best.

Food Action Plan Update

- Final fact checking and small revisions
- Sent to designer

Proofs of food system diagrams are back from the designer! Goal was to make it easily understandable. Some edits are still underway but it should be ready for the public in the coming weeks.

Outreach planning – Start in July with Community Management Teams

- Locations and dates
- simple handout packet
- Council Action: Decide on brief training process, sign up for outreach meeting dates

A smaller group of folks have been meeting to strategize around outreach. Management Team Meetings were identified as a place to let people know who we are and what we're looking to do. We need council people to look at the dates (see handouts) and volunteer to represent NHFPC

Maria: plea for folks to volunteer—Catharine reiterates that it's important that we team up, and get comfortable with this kind of work. Fun! Fulfilling!

Jennifer Daddio: would like to come to outreach meetings, also knows Church groups through town green

Tagan: Westville, Newhallville

Maria: Westville + others

Frank Douglas: Dwight, Hill

Frank Mitchell + Fred C + Monique: Fair Haven (Cara – Spanish?)

Anika: Hill—totally swamped in July, maybe August

Cara: Hill

Jennifer Daddio: would like to participate in as many as possible...

Catherine, Monique, Maria, Jacquie—all happy to fill in as needed through July and August.

Luray (name, spell?) working with Diana R from DESK for targeted outreach to that group. Diana going on vacation for two weeks. Will email with Cara about her dates.

Cara: will take on the organization of people and places.

Working Groups

- Should we have committees for internal functions and broad working groups for engagement and action? (Committees examples: finances, website, membership, etc?)
- Working Group Language from Montgomery County (see back)
- Potential working groups: Urban agriculture, Outreach and Engagement, School Food, Food Access, Cooking, emergency food – (youth engagement crosses through most groups)
- Council action: Decide on some working groups and identify a working group that you want to sit on and help to start

The need for more focused groups has been identified. People need a place to be plugged in to. All agree! Council reads the Montgomery County language—very inclusive and clear. As we start branching out we'll need to change up our meeting time so that more community members can come.

Urban Ag—strong desire. Prelim meeting this Friday.

Compost—Fred C looking to get this moving. Carol Baldwin says to begin small. Should be a sub-committee of Urban ag.

Land Use & Zoning: Brad Armstrong seeing need for this. Falls in both Urban ag and Food Businesses

Members: Kate Balentine (CT Food Back), Maria Tupper, Common Ground, YSFP, Monique..fair weather. Brad, Fred (compost specific), Melissa Waldron

Elderly Food Access—dept of elderly service, Billy, CARE, CitySeed all involved

SNAP may take a hit when the Farm Bill re-authorizations are voted on. If the program is cut then we'll need to be moving away from this.

Emergency Food: perhaps a new E food council is already being formed. Laurie thinks Emergency and Elderly food might be able to combine because outreach is so similar.

Members: Billy, Cara, Luray, Anika, Diana (not present but likely to be interested)

Food Business Development—i.e. creating new (healthy food) businesses and working with existing enterprises who might need resources/assistance. A group of people who might lead this group has been identified but they might need some incentive.

Members: Frank Douglas, Brad, Tagan

Cooking and Nutrition Education: (does marketing fall here?) Cooking Matters, CitySeed, Inc. are both interested. Laurie is also interested in engaging in this. Sarah at Green Well Café, Mary Laurence..a lot of people in New Haven are trying to start businesses and market themselves.

Members: Anika, Cara, Luray, Jacquie

Institutional Reform—doesn't need to be a WG yet... CitySeed, Inc. has put in a grant app for Farm to School Assessment. This will help address access for children. Yale is working on this as well so that it's system-wide.

Schools, Hospitals, institutions...

School Food-- specific topic for **Youth Engagement**

Members: Tagan, Cara, Melissa W, Frank D

Question: Do we do advocacy? Can we manage that? Jacquie suggests that we don't form a new WG for this but rather delegate liaisons to different causes. Perhaps this is a resource section on our website? Brad asks, perhaps each WG has a advocacy person? Seems like **ADVOCACY** and **HEALTH** are over-arching themes...

We're not allowed to lobby—we can only make policy recommendations. This is an area that needs to be clarified (Roberta is on this). Frank is interested in looking in to this piece as well. Follow-up TBD.

Next Steps for Working Groups: some groups are already more organized than others...so...where do we go from here? Groups that are already in progress should have agenda time to report to the group. Tagan will type this up and follow up because we need to move on.

NHFPC Funds – Council Action: proposal to hire intern – council vote

Frank Douglas: motion to hire an intern. Council members: ALL VOTE IN FAVOR. No objections or concerns.

- \$6000 –remaining from last year – budgeted for website, print materials, staff pay, community conversations.
- \$7,000 received this month (funding for this year through December or beyond)
- Proposed Intern administrative responsibilities: schedule meetings, take minutes, organize information, draft annual report from notes, create membership packet and send affiliate membership letters, etc...

We were unsure about the amount of funding we received, but confirmed with City Hall that it was the amount budgeted for. Nicole expressed concern that we do not know if we will continue to receive funding so we should spend and save wisely. We need small admin tasks to be taken off the shoulders of Council Members so they can focus on outreach work.

Fred expressed concern that we use only part of our funding for staff and reserve some for other things we may need. Maria likes that this would take admin tasks away from.

Interruption: our meeting room is double booked...

Nicole and Tagan have been working to clarify Tagan's role. What is Council Work v City Seed work?

Other thoughts on spending money: bringing people together around food. We should always add something to events so that people want us to be there. Monique suggests that we bring food to all of our outreach events to help them be positive, delicious and fun. She cited a pie gathering at Art Space.

Food Summit Friday October 12, & Big Food Big Change Saturday October 20 – update

- Two Events—one with Will Allen and one at the Peabody. Allen event is small/invite only on 10/12. Peabody event is 10/20.
- Food Month & Food Day October 24th– promotion
- Plan an event for Oct. or help with existing events, spread the word

One group is working on Will, YSFP and CARE taking on the Peabody event. Marketing committee has begun designing materials.

Kendall Foundation is interested in NHFPC and the Food Action Plan. They are interested in helping us support the Summit. They'd like a proposal by the end of July for submission in August.

Website – who is interested in working on this now?

Volunteers for a few meetings, does not need to be ongoing.

Hope is that our intern is web savvy. Others don't feel like they have the skills. Frank: a web launch isn't possible for us, let's keep the City site and revisit the conversation when we have more time to discuss it. Jacquie suggests a Tumblr site.

Other Business, announcements: SNAP doubling, NH Farms, Urban Ag Working Group, others...

New Haven Farms has applied for Gardens for Good Campaign
Downtown Market opening today. CitySeed, Inc. is now doing double value with Wholesome Wave

Hill Health has a temporary opening for a nutritionist. Contact Anika Johnson for info.

Next Food Policy Council Meeting
Wednesday July 18, 2012 - 8am - 9:45am – Facilitator: Fred
City Hall Meeting Room #3
Contact: info@nhfpc.org