



# New Haven Food Policy Council

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## Meeting Agenda July 20, 2011

### Updates:

#### **Youth Council**

- James appointed to the council by the board of alderman
  - There was a request from the board of alderman that we put a notice out to all the highschools
  - So far we have reached out to Common Ground, High School in the Community and currently reaching out to the sound school.
  - Lydia Bornic has volunteered to be a liaison to that group

#### **NHFPC Marketing**

- Website update – Frank or Moses
- Met and we are speaking with IT person in New Haven. There are some questions if we want a dual website or not.
- Brochure
  - Tagan met with a graphic designer who worked with New Haven Farms. She is interested in both helping with the website and creating a brochure for the FPC.
  - Any interest in looking at content of current brochure?

#### **Update on Food Policy Plan**

- Catherine has been hired (pending approval of council) to research and write plan (both overall and one that coalesces with Sustainability plan.)
- Tagan is meeting with Catherine and pulling out task for research from current draft and council members and affiliate members will be asked to research small sections.
- Catherine will look into precedent set in other cities to inform recommendations related to our priorities
- Monique – related to priorities – Access, production and “health”
- Our leading priority currently is Urban Agriculture
  - Is organic part of the discussion?
  - Baltimore changed zoning to allow people to grow on vacant lots and then sell it.
  - In some communities you cannot grow food on your front yard

- We should also facilitate grown food to be donated to Soup kitchens, etc
- Is there a way that for gardens to be considered for vacant lots instead of parking lots
- Food Reclamation
  - There was a food reclamation program that the Food Bank retired. It was not successful. Years ago it was done by Rachel's table. Maybe shift and focus on composting. (has to go to a meal program not a pantry)
  - There are a number of restaurants that are composting (it goes to the New Milford site)
  - First step to begin a residential composting program is to improve recycling program. Now that we have single stream recycling our recycling numbers have increased to 30% from single digit percentage.
  - Can we look at setting up a compost site that is more local (i.e. not New Milford)
    - FPC members – assistance with specific tasks TBA
    - Summer deadlines for Mayors office and sustainability

#### **Healthy Meals – Healthy Choices, Healthy Kids**

- one pager and plan moving forward
- Healthy Choices –Healthy Kids
  - No issues with it being part of priorities

#### **Discussions**

##### **CT Food Bank**

We receive food from around the state and give it to various non-profits. 30 pantries, 8 kitchens

Last year's stats from New Haven 3,000 children 774 seniors 5230 adults (check recording)

250 people to soup kitchens per night. Outreach regarding choosing food, SNAP and WIC. Working with intern with the Rudd center to collect data on why they are serving and how. Also surveying recipients.

For the plan – promoting the programs, grants for coolers/fridges in the city. Maybe promote a gleaning program – more food is coming from farms not supermarkets. Food Bank has a mobile pantry program, it is refrigerated. We have one once a month community Baptist in New Haven. September is Hunger Action month. We work with End Hunger CT on policy issues. Infoline has the best list of pantries and kitchens.

Ample harvest is another website that connects plant a row people to kitchens/pantries. Lorraine will be consulted on plan

##### **Healthy Corner Stores**

- Alycia Santilli from CARE
  - Launched 3 corner stores located near schools

- Works with corner stores to stock healthy food in their stores (produce and healthier snacks)
- There are incentives built in to encourage stores to participate
- How do we maintain demand from the community
  - Samples
- Challenge – produce sourcing hasn't been the major issue (which was expected), rather it has been snack distribution.
  - For example there are only 2 Frito Lay snacks that qualify.
  - Is trader joes a place that would have healthy snacks?
  - UNFI – they are a large natural food distributor
  - Partner with Edge of the Woods?
  - Encourage that the distributor provide more healthy snacks
- Milk subsidy – How do we get more low-fat milk into stores. (lower prices, market strategies)

Zoning has been in an issue in terms of putting out a sidewalk shelf with fruits and vegetables flowers. This is not allowed in mixed zoning areas were most of the bodegas are.

Are we involved in the rewriting of the municipal code? We need to involve ourselves in this.

UNSURE:

WIC and SNAP

Need to look into the ramifications of encouraging a policy related to WIC and Snap

Do we need a sub-list of priorities?

How do we gain access to the data that would assist us in giving recommendations related to increasing enrollment in WIC and SNAP

This Thursday there is a training with End Hunger CT that informs folks how to pre-screen people for eligibility

Food Education

Food education recommendations not only related to nutrition but beyond. We are coordinating with the Wellness Committee. There is a lot of education that is supposed to be happening in school that is state mandated. We can support the wellness committee recommendations.

Best way to encourage better policy is to obtain a grant, partner with one school and use it as a model.

Discussions

How do we proceed on giving our final 5 points. Do we vote on this? What is our timeline?

**Motion:** That the council gives the committee the authority to move ahead for the recommendation for the food policy priorities and the committee will keep the council informed of the progress

Seconded, unanimous

Catherine – diverse experience in non-profit, experience in food system research on a local and statewide level.

**Motion: We support CARE in hiring Catherine to research and write FPP**  
**Seconded, Unanimous**

We are meeting Corporate Accountability to go over one pager. Corporate Accountability will do the graphic design. We are applying for a grant and acquired funds from Rudd to do a preimposed evaluation of the ordinance affects

### **Food Day NH**

- Yale Student Group presentation
  - Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>
  - The idea is to cross promote all Food Day activities

New Haven Farms started two plots on Sunday!

10-3 Clinton ave School word day.

Color of words group does filming or Youth Rights media. Documenting the growth of a food movement in New Haven.

### **Job description for production of Food Policy Plan**

The candidate will be contracted by the New Haven Food Policy Council and funded by Yale University's Community Alliance for Research and Engagement (CARE) to complete the Food Policy Plan (FPP). The FPP will consist of the recommendations that the NHFPC will make to the city of New Haven, CT. Working with the sub-committee of the FPC, the overall task will be to complete the production of the Food Policy Plan. Toward this end, responsibilities will include

- Research and compiling information behind policy recommendations. This will include investigation of similar policies in existence in other cities as well as any evaluations of policies that New Haven Food Policy Council includes in the FPP
- Meeting with representatives of the Office of Sustainability to devise and refine a set of approximately three policy recommendations from the FPP that are broadly geared toward sustainability.
- Meeting with any city representatives and others toward research on the FPP
- Meeting with representatives from CARE to obtain data
- Refine the structure of the FPP and produce the final report

The job will require working closely with the FPP subcommittee of the New Haven Food Policy Council to report on the ongoing research and to determine the specific direction of the work over time.

*Deliverables*

By early August:

- Complete set of 3-5 recommendations for the Mayor's Office with detail/suggestions regarding how recommendations are to be accomplished.

By end of summer:

- Complete set of food policy recommendations for inclusion in the Office of Sustainability plan with detail/suggestions regarding how recommendations are to be accomplished. You will meet with the Office of Sustainability and with the New Haven Food Policy Council FPP subcommittee for complete this.

For sometime in the Fall:

- The final Food Policy Plan

**Next Food Policy Council Meeting  
Wednesday September 21, 2011 - 8 - 9:45am  
City Hall Meeting Room #3**