



New Haven Food Policy Council

Meeting Agenda September 21, 2011

Welcome

Present:

Council members: Tagan Engel, Roberta Friedman, Maria Tupper, Fred Cofrancesco, , Anne Somsel, Jim Beech, Frank Mitchell, Anika Johnson

Affiliates: Jaquie Lewin, Joel Tolman, Vrinda Manglik, Melissa Waldron, Nicole Berube, Karen Donovan, Alycia Santilli, Mario Garcia, Johnny Dach, Emma Simpson, Steve Munno, Sue Daamgard, Sung In Johnson, Laura Mattaliano, Cara Donovan, Aaron Goode

Announcements:

- Mark Bomford from University British Columbia has been named Director of the Yale Sustainable Food Program. He will begin in late October.
- Family Fun Day: Massaro Farms, Sat Oct 1, 1-4:30
- Saturday—events on New Haven Green about depending less on fossil fuels, Critical Mass Bike Ride.
- Sept 26, 5 pm Karen Washington from Just Food, speaking at Yale, re: urban food justice and food sovereignty.
- October 1, 2011: Bioregional Walk in Fair Haven, including New Haven Farms, Clinton Farms, Grow New Haven, Healthy Corner Store, starts at Atwater Resource Center.
- Native American community in CT website: IndianCulture.org; recipes posted.

Food Policy Plan (FPP)

- Overview – FPP structure, timeline - BOA, outreach
 - Subcommittee meeting weekly; have CARE grant to assist with work; hired Catherine Bradshaw as consultant to research and write FPP
 - Information gathering: CT Transit, City Plan, Breastfeeding, etc.
 - Working with Office of Sustainability; they are drafting their own plan; we're in charge of drafting food sustainability piece for them
- Broad Recommendations
 - Appoint Food Systems and Policy Director to oversee the implementation and enforcement of FPP, make connections, recommendations on food.
 - We're researching grants to fund the position
 - Comprehensive food environment evaluation
- 4 policy priorities form the organizing structure of the plan
 - Increase access to healthy food
 - Increase consumption of fresh, healthy food

- Increase distribution and marketing of locally grown and healthy food (increase connection with local farms)
- Decrease the amount of food waste in the New Haven food stream
- Healthy defaults
 - Yale Law School Clinic has been researching and writing legislation
 - McDonald's has taken some steps toward making healthy defaults
- Next steps:
 - Members and affiliates will take plan out to community for feedback on basic plan, ways to measure success etc.
 - FPP will then be submitted to Board of Alders for approval; sections isolated to be voted on by Board; other pieces will be presented to Mayor's office or other departments for approval/enactment.
 - Link council members to organizations or neighborhoods for FPP outreach/feedback
 - Set up information table outside Board of Alder chamber during meetings
 - Connect with the county or region on parts of the FPP that lend themselves to reaching out—e.g., local sourcing.
 - Jif Martin, new sustainable coordinator for U Conn, holding a meeting on Friday, September 23, 2011; to discuss statewide efforts to address food sustainability, access issues etc.
- Timeline:
 - No final date on when to introduce the FPP—we need more time to do community outreach; will wait until new Board is elected.

Website/Promotional Materials

- Website revamp
 - Frank Mitchell has been looking at adapting the website.
 - Would be hosted by city, but designed by us; will cost money to implement.
 - Quick fix: revision of language, update information, then redo layout when have resources
 - Pieces that need revision will be sent out to Council members for feedback
 - Look at library and cultural affairs' web pages as potential models
- Need brochure to distribute during FPP outreach.

NHFPC Youth Coalition meeting

- Youth to provide feedback about community and schools; be neighborhood outreach to Council; new dietitian for Public Schools would like to work with us.
- Taste testing of new menus for school food—possible participation of youth coalition; also healthy corner stores.
- Lydia Bornik from Youth Coalition will be liaison to Council and coordinator of the group
- Meetings: Wednesday October 12, November 2, December 7
 - 3:30-5pm program room of the Main Public Library
 - \$25 fee
- Outreach to other schools
- Council members and community welcome to participate
- Office of New Haven State Affairs has students who are Public School Interns—could be a good resource

- Challenge: how to contact other students; set up Twitter account eventually?

Food Day New Haven – Monday October 24th, 2011

- Focus on people eating fresh, healthy food, and looking at sustainable agriculture, making changes to system
- Website – www.fooddaynh.org
- 25 events planned
 - WIC offices are participating
 - Restaurants: “The Big Eat”: local restaurants donate 5-50% of proceeds for evening to pool of money that goes to food/food security organizations around the city. Restaurant Week focuses on CT Food Bank—don’t want to compete with that--Common Ground will re-evaluate if Food Day is right time to do this.
- Goal: neighborhood events e.g., progressive dinners (salad at one place, main course at another) or block parties
- Spread the word and get more events on the map!

**Next Food Policy Council Meeting
Wednesday October 19, 2011, 8 - 9:45am
City Hall Meeting Room #3
Food Policy Plan Outreach and Feed Back Network**

Plan: we'll write the draft plan; then members and affiliates will assign themselves to a group, individual, organization, to talk to about the plan. We'll do a quick training to help people figure out what to say.

Groups to contact:

Alders: **Fred Cofrancesco** will contact Brenda Jones Barnes, Sal _____, others in the Fair Haven side

Junta: **Anne Somesel, Cara Donovan**

Greater Dwight Development Corp: **Frank Mitchell, Tagan Engel**

Elderly Services: **Maria Tupper** will contact Pat Wallace

Emergency Food Council: **Diana Richter**

CARE – Key neighborhood contacts: **Alycia Santilli**

NAACP: **Alycia Santilli, Tagan Engel, Maurice**

Grocery Stores: **Cara Donovan, Anika Johnson**

Long Wharf – wholesalers: **Fred Cofrancesco, Monique**

Yale Office of New Haven Affairs: **Rob Friedman and Jacquie Lewin**

Yale Office of Sustainability: **Jacquie Lewin**

New Haven Land Trust: **Maria Tupper**

CitySeed has contact with city and statewide farmers' markets: **Nicole Berube** will talk to the other farmers' markets

West Rock Neighborhood: **Common Ground**

Farmers

Community Management Teams

In the Works:

YSFP

NH Public Schools

CT Food Bank

Econ Development Office

Students – NHFPC Youth Coalition

Community Services/Health Matters

NH Health Dept

CT Transit

WIC nutrition educators

NHPS Wellness Committee