

FOOD POLICY MEETING MINUTES 1/15/2014

Members in attendance: Kristin Dubay-Horton, Alanna Kabel, Fred Kaskowitz, Margot Reynolds, Christine Stafstrom Audrey Barr, and Esperina Baptista.

Public in attendance: Marie Desances, Michele McCabe, Frank Basler, and Veronica

The FPC started at 5:45 Kristin did the welcome and everyone introduced themselves.

Margot reviewed the past meeting minutes. Christine moved to approve them, and Alana Kabel seconded it. Vote was unanimous.

Frank Basler spoke about the “Community Hunger Meeting” and gave us a list of people and the categories that they were interested in.

Food Entrepreneurship encourages buying local and going green for small business in the City of Bridgeport. Marilyn Moore was mentioned to be in charge of the Food Entrepreneurship.

Food Waste- This involves reducing and recapturing food. A few people were suggested including: Priutti K (from wholesome wave), Marie Desances, Nicole Williams, Monique Bosch, and Iris Molina Food waste attracted many people. Someone suggested connecting with community plates in an attempt to reduce food waste.

Increase Access to healthier Food Nicole Williams, Melodie Megola, Leah (wholesome Wave), Fred Kaskowitz, Yolanda Stinson-Cooking Food reservation education, Christine Stafford, Marilyn Faber – Parish Nurse Program

Frank Basler spoke about the idea of the FPC having subgroups. Not many people went to the station of going green and buying local. Kristin agreed to take part in that conversation at the summit and to see if further interest could be garnered.

The group then discussed the Food Summit (planned for February 10th) and reviewed the invitation. Recommendations for changes to the invitation were made.

It was suggested that Maggie should open the meeting by both introducing the food policy council and engaging the group in some sort of straw poll on what role they play in the food system.

The group suggested that at least one member of the FPC serve as a facilitator in the small group meetings to ensure that both the panels presented and that the groups answered the two core questions and that these were written down (using flip charts) and brought back for presentation to the full group: It was requested that Frank aid in developing some sort of facilitator guide for the next FPC meeting and volunteers were taken to facilitate and take notes for each of the four groups. The questions each small group must respond to and report back on are:

- How do we work together to make the healthy choice the easy choice?
- What can the food policy council do to support those efforts?

Small Group Work at Summit

1. Lessons learned from implementing farmer's markets – how can we work better together? What happens when farmer's markets are expensive? How to break the cost barrier and build sustainable retail models? (Facilitator: Leah, Christine, Maggie)
 - a. Leah Johnson (Wholesome Wave)✓
 - b. Michele McCabe & Marie Desances (analysis of Bport farmers markets last year)✓
 - c. Farmer (Nelson Corelli)✓
 - d. Monique Bosch - GVI (on their urban garden near TG) ✓
2. Reduction and recapture of Food Waste in Bridgeport (facilitators: Tina, Maggie, Audrey)
 - a. Nick from Galaxy Diner & Albertina Baptista on new city policy related to food donation✓
 - b. Karen Travali (Bpt hospital) ✓ but new name
 - c. Chris Timbrell on Food Digester and how it will be rolled out ✓
3. Buying Local and Going Green– how can small businesses feature local produce and what are the benefits (Facilitators: Kristin, Maggie)
 - a. Christopher Molyneux (Trumbull Marriott Farm to Fork Dinners)✓
 - b. Aquaculture School (Lea Catherman)✓
 - c. Nancy from BuyCtGrown.org (10% local initiative in CT) ✓
 - d. Patti Papp (Sport Hill Farm)
4. Community Gardens (facilitators: Christina, Alanna, Esperina)
 - a. Christina B Smith – new city policy on community gardens
 - b. Bob Halstead – community garden group
 - c. Barbara Kelly- Urban Roots
 - d. (TBD)Pivot Ministries - operates greenhouses on East End
 - e. United Congregational Church (has garden in their parking lot)

Kristin announced the start of the healthy corner store initiative and the group suggested that they develop a subcommittee of the FPC and the NRZ to work together on that issue. The two new stores are being given refrigeration units, technical assistance to offer healthier foods. The subcommittee will look at models from other locales and report back to FPC on how to set up here in Bridgeport. This pilot will focus on Bridgeport's East End – the longest standing food desert in the state.

FPC members decided to move their next meeting to the 5th of February so it could occur before the Food System Summit. Unanimous.

The Food Policy Meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M. The next FPC meeting was moved to February 5th, 2014 at 6:00- 7:00 P.M.