

Connecticut Food Policy Council
Draft Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 26th, 2015
A quorum was not present

Attendees

Members: Linda Hubeny, (DAS); Bill Seedman, (DSS); Steve Anderson, (DoAg); Marcia Maillard, (DPH); Lucy Nolan, (EHC!/Vice Chair); Linda Drake (UCONN); Stan Sorkin (CFA)

Guests: Leah Tully, (CHCACT); Martha Page, (HFS); Ellen Sloan, (DCP); Jessica Mahon, (EHC!); Peggy Zamore, (DFMCC); Jim Haslam (CT Legal Services/NLFPC); Marydale Debor (Fresh Advantage); Alycia Santilli (CARE/NHFPC)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05pm

The minutes from the January 8th, 2015 meeting could not be approved due to lack of a quorum.

Steve Anderson wanted to note a revision to the minutes:

- A quorum was not present at the last meeting

Additions to the agenda:

Bill Seedman from DSS reported that funding is available to help existing farmers markets replace old and broken EBT equipment. To apply one must go to fmctoolbox.org. In addition, DSS posted their new [SNAP & CT Farmers Market](#) video on YouTube.

Report on local food policy councils:

Jessica gave a brief reporting from her visits to local food policy councils for the month of January. The local councils included Bridgeport, New Haven, and Hartford. Jim Haslam also gave an update from the New London Food Policy Council. He reported that they are finalizing their Food Action Plan as well as reforming their goals and working groups. They also had a kickoff event with a brainstorming session around promoting the use of SNAP and other initiatives.

Nutrition Access through Healthcare Subcommittee Report:

Jessica reported on the committee that met earlier in the month in regards to the new ACA ruling for non-profit hospitals. Marydale Debor from Fresh Advantage went more in detail on the background of the Community Health Needs Assessment and the role that local advocates can play in the process of non-profit hospitals preparing for the next round of CHNAs. Martha Page gave Hartford Food System's experience in working with Hartford Hospital and Alycia Santilli also shared CARE's involvement with Yale New Haven Hospital during their assessment.

The subcommittee discussed hosting a summit that will bring hospitals, municipal leaders, local advocates, and other relevant stakeholders together to educate, build partnerships, and strategize next steps in collaborating on this year's community health needs assessment cycle.

The council began discussing details as all agreed that the summit should happen sooner than later. Some of the details include:

- A preliminary date of May 1st depending on securing a location
- Marydale Debor will assist in securing a speaker and will draft an invitation letter that will be sent out to organizations
- Mobilize the local food policy councils to commit to getting their local hospital to participate in the event

Agency or Guest Updates:

DSS: Bill Seedman reported the the Commodity Food Supplemental Program is on track for April. There will be 2,400 open slots for CT in which seniors who receive a slot will get a monthly box of foo. Local agencies (i.e. senior centers) will partner with the 2 CT distributors, CT Food Bank and Foodshare, to provide nutrition education, recipe fact sheets, and cooking demonstrations with the food that is provided in each box to encourage consumption of all the food.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, March 12th, 2015

Location: End Hunger CT! 65 Hungerford Street, Hartford, Conference Room

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm