

Connecticut Food Policy Council
Draft Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 12th, 2015
A quorum was not present

Attendees

Members: Bill Seedman, (DSS); Steve Anderson, (DoAg); Marcia Maillard, (DPH); Lucy Nolan, (EHC!/Vice Chair); Linda Drake (UCONN); Michael Keilty (UCONN)

Guests: Fran Freer, (CHCACT); Jessica Mahon, (EHC!); Jim Haslam (CT Legal Services/NLFPC)

The meeting was called to order at 1:08pm

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

Jim Haslam wanted to note a revision to the minutes:

- The New London Food Policy Council's kick-off event was for the food hub feasibility study.

Additions to the agenda:

Linda Drake from UCONN reported that the 2015 New England Food Solutions Summit will be happening on June 11th-12th. 12 delegates must be sent from each New England state. Nominations should be sent in before March 30th, so she will be forwarding the information to the council.

Community Food Security Report working group update: Jessica gave a brief report on updates from the working group. Fran Freer from CHCACT asked if there was a study that showed the increase of food prices at grocery stores during the same time SNAP is distributed at the beginning of the month. It was noted that similar studies have been done and the council showed interest in including something similar in the report. One of the mini reports on Food Affordability measures the variation of prices of a basket of food across the state so Lucy suggested adding another level of measurement that will include time frames of when the food was purchased on a week by week basis to see if there is truly a change in prices during SNAP benefit distribution.

Local food policy council webinar update: Jessica gave a brief report on the webinar. The new date will be [April 2nd](#) at [12: 00 pm](#). Jessica will be sending out save the date invitations to the local food policy councils and CFPC contacts.

Nutrition Access through Healthcare Subcommittee Report: Jessica reported updates from the subcommittee. There is a new date and time for the conference, [May 8th](#) from [1:30 – 4:00 pm](#). The subcommittee will be conducting a weekly conference call to discuss further details in regards to the meeting location, agenda, and other planning details.

Legislative Updates:

Lucy Nolan updated the council on a number of bills that she has testified on.

- SNAP Fraud: Placing a photo of SNAP recipients on their EBT card
- Tax on Sugary Drinks: To tax drinks with any amount of added sugar 1¢ per ounce. Money will go towards obesity prevention.
- A ban on marketing of junk food in schools

Agency or Guest Updates:

DSS: Bill Seedman reported that from February 1st to March 1st there was a decrease in the number of SNAP households. The number of households decreased from 233,700 to 233,000. He mentioned that this may be due to several factors such as improved economy.

CT has been a leader in the Employment and Training Program. They have seen a 8% increase over the past years and Northwestern Connecticut Community College has been newly added to serve students in the program. DSS has applied for a grant to run a pilot program that will have enhanced wrap around services for students in the E&T program. These services may include support for daycare, transportation, books, supplies, and other services.

DPH: Marcia Maillard reported that WIC will be moving to the EBT card and DPH will be using Massachusetts as a model for implementing the transition.

The Healthy Corner Store Initiative in Bridgeport has been underway, a big even celebrating its success will be held in April. Marcia also stated they are looking to expand the initiative in Waterbury and in New London.

DoAG: Steven Anderson reported that CT Ag Day will be on March 18th at the Capital.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, April 9th, 2014

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

Motion to adjourn was given by Marcia Maillard and was seconded by Bill Seedman

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm