

Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC)
Minutes – March 9, 2017

Members in attendance: Lucy Nolan, Marcia Pessolano, Don Casella, Steve Anderson, Michael Keilty, Bill Seedman

Guests in attendance: Ryan Maciel, Meg Hourigan, Helana Hoover-Litty, Jean King, Sarana Beik, Marielena Lima, Ben Borgesano

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by Vice Chair Lucy Nolan.

Welcome and Introductions: Lucy Nolan acting as Chair welcomed the members and guests. Introductions were made.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Postponed until the next meeting.

Additions to the agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Administration

-Lucy is investigating the opportunity for the CT FPC to conduct a conference about solar panel use on important farmland.

-This would be an opportunity to discuss and investigate the topic.

-We would invite people from the solar industry, farmland preservation, farmers, etc.

-The council members and guests agreed to move forward and have a conversation with Cmr. Revitsky regarding hosting a conference.

Presentation: Antibiotic Stewardship and Health Care of our Food Animals (Michael Keilty and Jean King) *see slides for more details

-Working through UCONN Extension, SARE Tri-State PDP – UCONN, UMASS, URI. Create professional development programs (conferences, webinars, 7-hour programs) for farmers, vets, etc. Anyone that works with farmers and food animals.

-Update on what the universities are doing regarding antibiotics in animals and resistance in humans

-Funded by Northeast SARE

-Northeast SARE (office of USDA) is 13 states – not just NE states (down to West VA, Delaware, etc.)

-Purchasing antibiotics from places like Agway – not regulated or restricted

-The resistance issue is very important – 80% of all antibiotics sold in the USA are used for our food animals per FDA and 51% of antibiotics used in hospitals are unnecessary per the CDC.

Agency/Member/Guest Updates

- Hartford Food System/Meg Hourigan – introducing Marielena working on the Hartford Food Policy Commission; Sarana is on the transitional steering committee with the Food Systems Alliance (FSA).

The FSA Network meeting will be held on June 3. It is a kick off for membership and to create a cohesive vision in the state.

- End Hunger CT!/Lucy Nolan – Lucy testified on multiple bills related to food/food insecurity.
- DOAG – Ag day next week (March 15 from 10-1 pm) at the Capitol. There is a legislative bill proposed regarding hops growing and breweries – including a brewery trail/passport that has been proposed similar to the wine trail.
- DSS/Bill Seedman – phasing in new eligibility system, taking a more cautious approach than other surrounding states. ETA – next 5 months. Barring any unforeseen issues.

Next meeting will be on April 13 at 1:00 pm in the Old Judiciary at the Capitol.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm Motion made to adjourn by Marcia Pessolano, Bill Seedman seconded