



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 Bureau of Ag Development & Resource Conservation



Bryan P. Hurlburt
 Commissioner

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 CTGrown.gov

Connecticut Food Policy Council

MEETING Minutes

November 10, 2022

1:00 PM- 2:30 PM

Via WebEx

Join from the meeting link:

<https://ctdoag.webex.com/ctdoag/j.php?MTID=m7a1014d061426402921dee77a7ff748a>

Join by meeting number

Meeting number (access code): 132 460 3963

Meeting password: euNtH3A3Nf7

Members Present: Patrick Doyle, Jiff Martin, Susan Pronovost, Commissioner Hurlburt, Lynn Peccerillo-Hills, Monica Pacheco, Marcia Pessalano (Mailyon Lonczak present to represent DPH), Priscilla Cotto, Dan Giacomi, Molly Devanney, Martha Page

Members Absent: None

Public: Carolyn Alessi, Chelsea Gazillo, Shana Brierley, Meg Hourigan

DoAg staff Present: Cyrena Thibodeau, Erin Windham,

1. Call to Order Meeting called to order at 1:05pm by Erin Windham
2. Review and approval of meeting minutes from September 8,2022
 Correction Martha Page was present at the meeting. Minutes passed with that correction
3. Public Comment- No public comment
4. Old Business
 - A. Meeting schedule for 2023
 - Council agreed to move back to monthly meetings beginning in 2023
 - B. CT Food Policy Council Strategic Plan, *William Logue, CTAMP*
 - Bill gave an overview of the strategy as it's been updated
 - Monica- is the intent to fill in all the blanks on the workplan of what will be done and who will be responsible for it.
 - Bill, need to think about what work can be done in meetings and what can be done in between meetings, move beyond just primarily giving updates in the meetings
 - Sue, we're about to have a whole new group of people we are engaging with through the grant program, what is that going to look like?
 - Jiff, part of the longstanding question of who is on the council. Should be apart of the plan is getting the right people on the council. Adding additional chairs to the table even if it's not in statute. Something that shakes up the membership and brings in new blood and energy
 - Martha, convening and elevating community voice. Being an amplification mechanism for more local

- Patrick- on the top of page 4 change to “promote and invest in community driven projects”, on page 5 change to create spaces for policy makers and local groups, on page 8 under tactic 1 bringing together grantees, practioners, and policy makers. Bill- who are you thinking about when you say policy makers? Patrick- be as inclusive as possible, welcome in local and state policy makers not just state agencies
 - Bill- now we have some edits and need to work towards next steps and what it will translate to into terms of actions of the council
 - Martha- do we need to formally adopt this?
 - Erin- yes. Would suggest everyone take a look at the work plan and provide thoughts on what you would want to be apart of
 - Monica- just wanted to point out to everyone that this is going to take work outside of the council meetings which I’m fine with
- c. CT Food System Alliance/Hartford Food System-Update, *Meg Hourigan*
- Meg gave a comprehensive update of where CFSA is now in the action plan process and presentation will be shared with council and the listserv

5. New Business

- A. Burgdorf Center Food Pantry and Produce RX Program, *Carolyn Alessi, Regional Director- Community Health & Well Being, Trinity Health of New England*
- *Carolyn gave an overview of the goals and focus of Trinity Health. Detailed the work of their pantry and the Food as Medicine Program that they are developing for dually eligible patients through Medicare and Medicaid. Policy system and environment change through the transforming communities initiative focused on resident engagement*

6. Board Member Updates

- A. Patrick-awarded UAIP grant, really excited to be able to take care of some needed infrastructure improvements. Patrick will send out flyer for event after meeting
- B. Jiff- have a new associate dean joining our team, maybe we can bring her to one of these meetings. Things are very busy extension and school are both in full swing. Working on lots of farm to school work- bunch more money coming
- C. Monica- things have been very busy. PEBT continues to a lot of work, 2 rounds of supply chain assistance funds third round being issued which should help districts with difficulties they’ve experienced procurement goods for meals. LFS approval coming soon which will bring in money directly to districts to purchase local foods. Healthy meals incentive initiative which will provide grants for schools
- D. Dan-2 summer PEBT initiatives, another for SNAP households with children under 6 which will go out sometime in December. 900M total, minimum \$95 to each households. Currently state public health emergency ends at the end of December but federal goes through January so last emergency allotment would be in February. Seeing a larger increase in applications coming into the agency after we changed the gross income limits. Working with a non-profit code for America to change the SNAP experience for individuals, letting them know when they’re renewal is due, etc. if you go to our website you’ll see on our website if anyone wants to have an interview and they receive SNAP they can get \$50 for about an hour conversation.
- E. Marilyn- we have 90 days beyond the public health emergency for WIC. Cash value benefit has been extended through March 2023, continue to update information about the formula crisis as we have a contract with Abbott and use Similac. WIC is more campaign to improve enrollment in new London, Hartford, and Norwich. Working with CT breastfeeding coalition and SPAN funds to expand access to breastfeeding, training for underrepresented individuals to become certified lactation consultants.

- F. Molly-costs are just going up, trying to help as many food pantries as possible. Lots of emergency hunger food drives going on this weekend, next Tuesday will kick off turkey Tuesday to try to get as many turkeys as possible together to get to Foodshare. Continue to work on our wine campaign
- G. Lynn- prices are high in the food contracts and there is a lot of pivoting going on. Those contracts are expiring soon so will be issuing solicitations soon
- H. Priscilla- if there are events that are happening and you need bus transportation, let me know

7. Executive Session

- A. Review of Food System Capacity Building Grant Scoring

8. Adjournment 3:15 PM by Erin Windham

Respectfully submitted by Cyrena Thibodeau, AMIR 1 11/15/22