



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Office of the Commissioner

Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer



Connecticut Food Policy Council

Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2024

1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

Members Present: Jaime Smith (on behalf of Commissioner Hurlburt), Martha Page, Monica Pacheco, Patrick Doyle, Tida Infahsaeng, Shawn Joseph, Molly Devanney, Marilyn Lonczak, Lynn Peccerillo-Hills

Ag Department Members: Cyrena Thibodeau, Hannah Carty, Amy Fernand

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting Called to Order: 1:06 PM
2. Review and approval of meeting minutes from January 11, 2024
 - a. Motion to approve with typographical issues corrected and clarity included
 - b. Martha Second
 - c. Motion to approve; passes, no nays
3. Public Comment – no comments
4. Old Business – no old business
5. New Business
 - a. Connecticut Food System Alliance and NE Feeding NE Project - updates and review local food counts project
 - i. Martha: There is not much difference between now and what was discussed in January. Something close to finishing is the local food council project, done across the NE region, but is headed up by Christine Conley from UCONN Zwick. The goal of the project is to figure out a consistent definition of how much regional food exists in the northeast.
 1. Further discussion ensued.
 - b. Ag Day Recap
 - i. Monica, Martha, and Patrick attended; Cyrena organized the table.
 - ii. Jaime: Thank you to everyone who participated and organized the experience.
 - iii. Martha: Important to have table but need to have more of a presence; have a trifold about why does policy matter. Can we create a map and send it to the different legislators.
 - iv. Patrick: Turn learning about grants into information for legislators about the impact and lessons learned; and vocalize that to legislators particularly funding ask versus the reach required.
 - v. Cyrena: Annual Report has been approved and can be sent to legislators.
 - c. April Field Trip - grantee visit
 - i. Question for this: When looking at past grantees, an area that makes sense would be the Daily Bread Danbury, would there be a willingness to meet in that area and visit with grantees and facilities.
 - ii. Interest and consensus to move the date to June instead
 - iii. Jaime: at the next meeting, please take a formal vote to have

- d. Jaime: Motion to move to executive: Patrick
- 6. Executive Session
 - a. Food System Capacity Building Grant Application Review
- 7. Motion to accept six project totaling just over \$100,000.00 for grant awardees
 - a. So moved –
 - b. Second – Patrick Doyle
 - c. All members approved, no nays.
- 8. Board Member Updates
 - a. Monica: Department of Ed
 - b. Jaime: Department of Ag is working on the Local Foods for Schools program and refunds of monies used to purchase local and regional foods to begin around May 1. Working on electronic WIC program.
 - c. Molly: CT FoodShare; looking to make it more business-friendly within the state;
 - d. Jaime: WIC is fully funded and there is a big uptake;
- 9. Next Meeting – 1pm – 3pm, May 9, 2024
- 10. Adjourn