

Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC)
Minutes – June 9, 2016

Members in attendance: Lucy Nolan, Marcia Maillard, Steven Anderson
Guests in attendance: Peggy Zamore, Helana Hoover-Litty, Melissa Spiesman

The meeting was called to order at 1 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 when a quorum is available.

Additions to the agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Community Plates Presentation

Melissa Spiesman from Community Plates presented information about the organization. Community Plates is a food rescue organization established in 2011 in Fairfield County with the purpose of eliminating hunger. There are now locations in Columbus, OH, Albuquerque, NM, New Haven, CT, New Orleans, LA, and Hartford, out of Manchester, CT. There are three things that make this organization stand apart from other organizations: 1) the use of technology which allows them to connect, interact, and coordinate volunteers; 2) the organization is volunteer driven with all food moved by volunteers; and 3) the focus on direct transfer from one point to another, no storage, to conserve quality and freshness. Since 2011, Community Plates has rescued 12 million meals and saved 18 million pounds of food from landfills. Recruitment of volunteers is all through word of mouth. They hope to open seven more sites this year.

Administration

-Community Food Security Report: Adam Rabinowitz is leaving UCONN at the end of July.
-Membership – Appointments are still needed for multiple positions. Steve, Lucy, and Marcia will meet in the coming weeks to come up with a plan for filling positions/getting appointments over the summer.

Agency/Member/Guest Updates

- EHC!
 - Lucy Nolan was presented the Award for Innovative Anti-Hunger Work from the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) for EHC! EHC! was recognized for their tremendous work in Connecticut. Congrats to Lucy and her team!
 - EHC! is going to be the administrator to some Wholesome Wave funds from a FINI grant.

- Summer meals week is June 19th. Blitz's will be occurring all over the state and EHC! is promoting their "Blitz in a Box" for communities to use to promote summer meals independently.
- DPH
 - Marcia Maillard will arrange to have a WIC staff person attend one of the FPC meetings in the fall to talk about eWIC rollout, including successes and lessons learned.

Local FPC Updates

- Danbury Farmers Market Community Collaborative received a grant from DoAg for marketing/website. Their website is now up and running and they have some new marketing materials. They may also get some Wholesome Wave money but that is still TBD.

Next meeting will be on September 8th at 1:00 pm; location TBD.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm Motion made to adjourn by Marcia Maillard and seconded by Steve Anderson.