

Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC)
Minutes – October 11, 2018

Members in attendance: Marcia Pessolano, Monica Pacheco, Michael Keilty (phone), Flavia Pereira (phone)

Guests in attendance: Caroline Carini, Erin Breslin, Helana Hoover-Litty, Michael Puglisi, Jenna Nicol, Meg Hourigan, Latha Swamy (phone), Peggy Zamore (phone)

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Marcia Pessolano.

Welcome and Introductions: Marcia Pessolano 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

No new updates on administration.

Local Food Policy Council Updates –

- Meg Hourigan – New Haven has a new Food System Director (Latha Swamy) – on the call and will provide updates. The Bridgeport FPC is creating an Urban Agriculture master plan. Hartford is having an open house on 11/14 at the library from 4:30-6:30 pm.
- Latha Swamy (New Haven) – There is a Micro Food Business Ordinance being considered in New Haven, which will make it easier for small business owners to access commercial kitchens. New Haven is also applying for a multimillion dollar grant to apply the food hub concept as a one stop shop. It is a collaborative effort between the city and several NGOs in New Haven.
- Peggy Zamore (Danbury) - There is a Senior Dine Around Program in Danbury similar to the one in Waterbury for seniors to eat at different restaurants. There is new data that there is a large amount of breastfeeding in the area but not enough support. Marcia to follow-up with Peggy re: supports available.

Agency/Member/Guest Updates

- DPH (Marcia)
 - No new updates
- DAS (not present)
 - N/A
- CT Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (Helana)
 - No new updates.
- UCONN Extension (Mike P.)

- No new updates. The Farmers Market Redemption Rates are not available yet, would be obtained from Wholesome Wave for Danbury. Danbury's rates are down.
- CSDE (Monica)
 - This month is Farm to School Month. There is a Farm to School collaboration with DoAg and CSDE and they are working to put the word out. On the [website](#) there are tools on how to market, simple ideas and how to connect with farms. They promote putting local food on the menu. Schools are supposed to be reporting in so that data can be collected. The New England region meeting with Farm to School to look for ways to collaborate.
- DoAg (not present, but Monica provided details on the below joint effort) –
 - DoAg received a Farm to School grant for a meeting this January to connect partners and farmers and conduct training on Farm to School. The School Nutrition Association of Connecticut Conference will be in November. There will be trainings and discussions about farm fresh in the state.
- DOT (Flavia)
 - No new updates.
- DCP (Jenna) –
 - Jenna is the new representative. There is a new Cottage Food Law which now allows non-profit entities and people to apply and sell non-hazardous foods such as jams, jellies, syrups. This will make it easier for organizations like schools or Boy/Girl Scouts to fundraise. 12 applications have been received to date. For more information: <https://portal.ct.gov/cottagefood>.
- DSS (not present, Marcia reported for Bill Seedman) –
 - There was a press release about Farm AID and SNAP and other SNAP happenings (see below):
 - The governor put out a press release on 10/9/18: <https://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2018/10-2018/Gov-Malloy-Federal-Government-Says-CT-Among-Best-in-Nation-for-Enrollment-in-Food-Aid-Program>
 - CSCU put out a press release related to SNAP E&T: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Departments-and-Agencies/DSS/Communications/CCSU.pdf?la=en>
 - Same program which was also covered on NBC CT: <https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/CSCU-offers-free-classes-to-SNAP-enrolled-students-at-all-12-community-colleges-494975101.html>

Next meeting will be on November 8, 2018 at EHC!

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm Motion made to adjourn by Marcia.