

Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC)  
Minutes – September 13, 2018

Members in attendance: Marcia Pessolano, Don Casella, Monica Pacheco, Steve Anderson, Bill Seedman, Shannon Yearwood

Guests in attendance: Caroline Carini, Michael Puglisi, Meg Hourigen, Emma Sabella, Coryanne Marsell, Caren Harder, Chris Nelson.

**The meeting was called to order** at 1:00 pm by Steve Anderson.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Steve Anderson 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.

**Meeting Presentations**

- An Economic Perspective on the Food-Waste Problem
  - o Dr. John Bovay, UCONN
  - o Dr. Bovay discussed the economic reasons that food is wasted, an economic perspective on the reasons food waste is problematic and review historical and contemporary data on food waste.
  - o See attached slides for further information.
- Update on Food Diversion Efforts in CT
  - o **Chris Nelson DEEP**
  - o DEEP staff discussed what is going on from a DEEP perspective related to CT's Commercial Organics Recycling Law (which requires large generators of food scrap to separate and recycle or donate that food) and also related to EPA's food Recovery Hierarchy.
  - o See attached slides for further information.

**Local Food Policy Council Updates –**

- Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy will have two new commissioners. New Haven Food Policy council has a new director. Bridgeport Community Engagement Urban Agriculture has a new Master Program. Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies has begun the first steps of a food action plan.
- No other updates at this time.

### **Agency/Member/Guest Updates**

- DPH –
  - DPH Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Prevention Program has two new federally funded grants. One relating to oral health and obesity. The other is for SNAP
- DAS –
  - No new updates for DAS
- CSDE –
  - Medicaid Match pilot school nutrition program information from DSS brought in over 75,000 students. It was started in the spring and has decreased the burden on families for signing their children up for free or reduced lunches. The program has made people eligible immediately and help notify them. It is better for CTDE.
- EHC –
  - There are now close to 15 new school districts that qualify for free and reduced lunches for all children. EHC has issued the *2018 Connecticut School Breakfast Report Card*. If in a school only 6% of children qualify for free or reduced lunch, the school is not included because there is a chance they could be identified. Any questions contact Shannon. United Way has issued a 2018 report: *Alice: A Study of Financial Hardship in Connecticut*.
- DSS –
  - The Farm Bill has been settled. SNAP will continue with or without the Farm Bill. SNAP has helped 217,000 households, which is down from 245,000 households, and given over \$50,000 dollars in benefits. CSFP will meet the distribution goal of 95%.
- DoAg –
  - Connecticut hosted the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture meeting. The head of the association is from Connecticut. There were farm tours and a Farm to School pre-conference. The Big E starts soon, try to attend!

**Next meeting will be on October 11, 2018 at \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Meeting was adjourned** at 2:30 pm Motion made to adjourn by Bill and seconded by Steve.