



New Haven Food Policy Council (NHFP)

Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2018

Attendees:

Council members: Austin Bryniarski, Ashley Kremser, Kimberly Hart, Richard Furlow, Frank Mitchell

Affiliate and community members: James Cramer, Susan Harris, Jill Meyerhoff, Mark Duda, Kathleen Flynn, Latha Swamy, Henry Duell Jr, Lauren Kim, Deborah Greig, Kimberly Acosta, Kevin McCarthy, Cara Donovan, Justin Elicker, Russell Moore, Daniel Shields, Gail Shary, John Lugo, Dakibu Muléy, Genesis Vicente

Austin called the meeting to order at 8:39 AM. Introductions around the room were made.

Announcements

- Lauren Kim announced that she will be interning for the NHFP.
- James Kramer announced that Loaves & Fishes will be conducting a survey to see what people want to eat in an effort to add more produce to their pantry selection.
- Kathleen Flynn announced that she will not be attending meetings in the next few weeks due to surgery.
- Riverfest festival in Fair Haven will be May 19th please contact Mark Duda if interested in participating.
- Dr. Dakibu Muléy introduced himself as the new Community Services Administrator for the City of New Haven.
- Ashley shared that CitySeed's Winter Markets are every Saturday
- Gail shared that Summer Blitz will take place Saturday June 16 at Goffe Street Park. She will need assistance distributing flyers and posters.

Items for Council Vote

- Austin motioned to approve minutes from last meeting on January 17, 2018.
- Ashley 2nd the motion. All were in favor- motion passed.

Policy Advancement Committee (PAC) Updates

- Next meeting will be Monday, February 26 at 10:30 AM at mActivity.
- Austin shared that items on the agenda include wage theft, mapping out who will attend Unidad Latina en Acción, ULA, meetings, BOE support of meal expansion.

Food Access Working Group (FAWG) updates

- Kimberly discussed the Witnesses to Hunger chapter of New Haven
- 24 people attended Witnesses to Hunger Meet & Greet, 11 applied to become members, Susan Nappi is helping Kimberly apply for a grant to aid with meals, transportation, and child care services.
- The next Witnesses to Hunger meeting is tentative for Saturday March 17 (Kimberly will confirm date with Genesis to share on newsletter)
- Kimberly discussed the last FAWG meeting which reviewed Yale's AHC's screening tools and referral services.
- Alycia, Billy, and Kimberly met with Yale's AHC and NowPow to discuss President Trump's proposal of SNAP boxes.
- Gail shared her concern about the new SNAP program (which would cut major funding) proposed by the federal government. SNAP generates money for school lunch budgets and education budgets. Gail believes people will unenroll from SNAP if SNAP boxes are passed.
- Dr. Muléy suggested reaching out to the Department of Social Services to attend NHFPC meetings to see what the state is doing about these potential changes to SNAP.

Office of Food System and Policy Updates

- Dr. Muléy shared that the Food System and Policy Director application closes on Monday, February 26.
- NHFPC would like to have some level of input on candidates for the position.
- Dr. Muléy went through the City of New Haven website and shared that he'd like to see the Food System & Policy page updated. Genesis will follow up with Dr. Muléy about documents pending to go on the website.

Potluck Update

- Next potluck is tonight, February 21 at 5:30 pm at CitySeed
- New Haven Farms, New Haven Land Trust, and CitySeed is hosting an "Office Opening" Tuesday February 27th from 5-7 PM in their new office space.

BoE Meeting & Supper Service in the NHPS

- Gail shared that 10 schools will now be offering suppers.

- Feasibility study due March 1st to BoE which Gail will be in charge of completing
- Schools need to take official attendance of students receiving suppers for recordkeeping in case they are asked to submit this information to the state.
- Gail shared that they need to feed suppers to at least 100 students in order to be able to staff the program with 2 employees.
- Super snacks and suppers can't be bone in conjunction according to federal regulations.

Annual Meeting

- Austin shared that the annual meeting will take place in March with all council members and affiliates will be invited once a date is solidified.
- Genesis has sent out a Doodle Poll to council members to set a date for the meeting.
- Austin and Genesis will be accepting suggestions for topics of discussion.

Unidad Latina en Acción (ULA) - John Lugo

- ULA was created 15 years ago and works with undocumented population and immigrants to protect these populations from wage theft, police brutality, and deportations
- ULA believes that most if not all kitchens and restaurants in New Haven employ these populations. These individuals sometimes get paid less than the minimum wage and experience physical violence from their employers.
- ULA wants to create policies for New Haven to stop these human rights violations.
- ULA is actively fighting against wage theft and expressed that the NHFPC already knows policy making which is why they are hoping to collaborate with the NHFPC.

Official Responses and or Recommendations from Previous Meeting

- Richard shared that Tennille Murphy's resignation letter has been received by the Mayor's office.
- Tennille's resignation will open up a Democratic council member seat.
- There are 4 empty seats (NHFPC to contact Pattie Lawlor about the political affiliations designated to the open seats).
- Eligibility to become a council member includes: attendance of 3 NHFPC meetings, resident of New Haven. Austin will share the requirements.
- Ashley will look to see if the vote was passed for representation of city departments on the council.

Action Items

- Austin will share the requirements for becoming a NHFPC council member
- Ashley will verify if the vote was passed for representation of city departments on the council

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am

Meetings:

Policy Advancement Committee: Monday February 26th, 10:30 AM at mActivity

FAWG: Tuesday March 6th, 12:00 PM at United Way

Potluck: Tuesday February 21st, 5:30 PM at CitySeed

Next Food Policy Council Meeting – Wednesday, March 21st, 8:30 AM