

Minutes
CT Food Policy Council Meeting November 8, 2012
at CT Dept of Agriculture

Present:

Members: John Frassinelli – DPH, Willard Seedman – DSS-SNAP, Linda Hubeny- DAS, Teri Dandeneau – CSDE, Michael Keilty – Maple Spring Farm, Rick Macsuga -- CT DOAG, Gloria McAdam -- Foodshare

Guests: Helena Hoover-Litty – CDA, Jean King - consultant, Ellen Sloan – DCP, Mary Parizo, End Hunger CT, Martha Page – Hartford Food System, Jiff Martin—UCONN Coop. Ext, Dawn Crayco – End Hunger CT, Jackie Schipke -- CTSDE

Minutes of the October 11 meeting were approved as amended.

Agenda Additions: Teri Dandeneau reminded everyone to register for the CT Childhood Obesity Policy Workgroup on November 19.

Presentation: CT School Breakfast Expansion Team

Jackie Schipke and Dawn Crayco described the work of the team to increase the schools and communities participating in the school breakfast program. While the number of schools offering the program has increased Connecticut remains last nationwide in the number of schools implementing the program. There was considerable discussion about the program and the work of the team and ways to increase participation.

October 25 Joint Meeting with New London

Notes from this meeting will be distributed shortly. At the meeting there the groups identified areas for joint activity. There was particular interest in developing a training program for local and state food policy groups on how they could be better at what they do.

Issues related to Hurricane Sandy

Rick Macsuga reported that for Farmers Markets that are still open, the date until which they could take FMNP WIC/Senior vouchers has been extended until November 11 from October 31.

Bill Seedman announced the SNAP benefits replacement program for those affected by the hurricane. In New London and Fairfield counties and 49 other towns there will be a 25% replacement for SNAP beneficiaries that will be automatically added to their card. There will be a process for requests for additional benefits. It has not been decided yet whether there would be SNAP benefits for non recipients.

Governor's Council on Agriculture Development

Members who had participated in the November 7 meeting with the Council reported on discussions about issues including marketing, farm to institution and state regulations. The Council plans to have a draft report in December.

NEXT MEETING December 13, 2012 – at the Legislative Office Building Room 2600
