

Minutes  
CT Food Policy Council March 8, 2012  
CT Dept. of Agriculture

Present:

Members: Linda Hubeny - DAS, Lucy Nolan - End Hunger CT, Rick Macsuga - DOAG, Linda Drake – UCONN, Willard Seedman – DSS-SNAP,

Guests: Helena Hoover-Litty – CDA, Jean King - consultant, Martha Page - Hartford Food System, Jiff Martin - UCONN

Minutes of the February 9, 2012 were tabled due to lack of a quorum.

Old Business and Updates:

1. Update on Community Food Security Report – Jiff Martin. Jiff shared an outline of the report and a draft of some ranking data. This report will rank food security from 3 perspectives: Population Food Security, Geographic and Transportation, and Food Assistance. There was considerable discussion of various components of the report. Expected completion date with materials presented on the web site is .
2. Governor’s Agricultural Development Council – Linda will invite the co-chairs of the Council to meet with the CFPC at one of our next meetings. The Council is in process of organizing its work.
3. Lucy Nolan – EHCT, reported on some legislative activities. The “exercise” bill to require 20 minutes of exercise every day in grades K-5 is awaiting committee report. A bill relating to GMO technology had considerable testimony at the Capitol.
4. Lucy Nolan also reported on promotional activities proposed by the Milk Promotion Board to encourage purchase and consumption of CT Milk. They are working with a marketing consultant. Jiff Martin reported that the CT Grown group is also working with the same consultant on marketing for CT Grown that would encourage persons to purchase a certain amount of CT Grown products.
5. Rick Macsuga updated the progress of the partnership of DOAG with CHFA that will provide \$250,000 in farmers market coupons to non WIC, non senior residents of state assisted housing. They expect to provide 2700 families in targeted towns with \$90 each in coupons this summer.

Agency Program Sharing:

Willard Seedman reported that DSS has a new emphasis on SNAP enrollment and has hired 64 workers dedicated to the SNAP program.

Jiff Martin described CT’s participation in the new national Food Corps program. Food Corps workers will be in schools in New Britain, New Haven, Bridgeport, Willimantic and Norwich with 6 Food Corps leaders in the state. The program begins Aug. 20, 2012 and goes through the school year. This was a competitive national program. Persons apply nationally to participate and receive a stipend like America Corps volunteers.

The School Breakfast statewide summit conference is May 4 at Rentschler Field.

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 12, 2012**