



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development FARM-TO-INSTITUTION WORKING GROUP C



MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 25, 2013

Hartford Regional Market
101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT 06114

I. CALL TO ORDER

Shelly Oechsler, working group chair, called the meeting to order at 1:28 p.m. Other working group members present were Herb Holden, Drew McLachlan, and Peter Sepe.

Group members Lena DiGenti, Rita Decker Parry, Nicole Griffin, and Jesse Powers were absent.

Also present was Linda Piotrowicz (representing Commissioner Reviczky, council chairman).

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Working group members introduced themselves and provided information about their areas of expertise.

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Chairman Oechsler provided an overview of the council's work since it convened in January 2012.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENT

Chairman Oechsler introduced the assignment the Farm-to-Institution subgroups C will be undertaking in 2013, which is to examine state statute (CGS Sec. 22-38b(d)) regarding "Certified Farm Fresh Restaurants" and make recommendations for implementation of a workable program.

V. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT DELIVERABLES

The group engaged in an in-depth discussion about its assignment and came to consensus that it would make recommendations regarding relative state statutes and develop criteria for a tiered Connecticut Farm-to-Chef restaurant certification program in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture's existing Farm-to-Chef program and advisory team.

VI. DETERMINATION OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

The group discussed various ideas for funding the staff and materials required to implement and administer such a certification program.

VII. RECAP AND NEXT STEPS

Chairman Oechsler recapped discussion highlights and next steps, which include group members reviewing additional statutory language, developing proposed recommendations regarding that language, and working with the Farm-to-Chef advisory team to develop certification program requirements.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Chairman Oechsler adjourned meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Piotrowicz
June 26, 2013