

Community Food Network (CFN) Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday, January 13, 2011

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. John's Anglican Church – Lounge

Attendees: Frances Wilbur, Dorothy Olver, Chris Kawalec, Joëlle Favreau, Dorothy Boddy, Marjorie McDonald, Julie Stoneberg, Judy Girard, Sue Hubay, Dr. Rosana Pellizzari (Chair), Paula Anderson, Jillian Bishop, Margaret Wright, Linda Slavin, Alida Tanna (Recorder).

Regrets: Marie Bongard, Peter Hughes, Mary McGee

Welcome and Introductions

1.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2010

The minutes were approved with revisions to the following items:

- Regrets (Marie Bongard was added)
- Item 7.2, Community Gardens
- Item 7.8, Kawartha Food Share

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Backyard Hens (Paula Anderson)

While a copy of the by-law was not available at the meeting, Paula recalled that it was quite restrictive, making this type of venture very onerous and difficult to implement in a city setting. Currently, the by-law requires permission from the Medical Officer of Health. A number of communities (e.g., Vancouver, Hamilton (in progress)) have changed their by-laws to accommodate the keeping of hens. **ACTION: Paula will request a copy of the by-law and forward it to Dr. Pellizzari.**

To facilitate this, Dr. Pellizzari suggested taking an educational approach (similar to food handling courses provided by the Health Unit), with the development of guidelines, and a workshop or course on the keeping of backyard hens.

The group brainstormed as to who could take the lead on this. Marjorie MacDonald (from the Trent Centre for Community-Based Education) noted that the Trent Centre could assist with the development of the workshop, but could not support this on an ongoing basis. Paula felt Green-up could provide assistance, and Frances felt that By The Bushel could contribute as well. **ACTION: Paula will follow up with COIN. Rosana will follow up with the appropriate Health Unit Manager regarding the involvement of a Public Health Inspector.** A sub-committee will be struck to work on this item further.

3.2 St. Vincent De Paul Food Vouchers (Marie Bongard)

Susan advised that Marie will inquire whether a representative from St. Vincent De Paul would be available to come to the February or March CFN meeting. Further discussion on this item will be deferred until that is confirmed.

3.3 Seasonality (Susan Hubay)

Margaret Wright and Linda Slavin joined the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Susan reviewed previous discussions regarding the development of a calendar which would profile various community food programs and include a recipe based on food locally available that month. Suggestions from the group on this item were as follows:

- include information on related local events/markets
- refer to a food chart (on local food availability) produced by COIN; By The Bushel also has this information
- Use the City Waste Management calendar as an example of layout and design; Linda Slavin noted that she has contact information for a graphic designer
- Feature a page or spread of advertising to cover costs of production

DECISION: There was general support from the group to move forward with this initiative.

ACTION: Susan will send out an email.

3.4 Food Policy (Susan Hubay)

Susan reported that the Health Unit received funding (ending March 31, 2011) through Healthy Communities for food policy work. Joëlle and Susan met with a potential candidate. Deliverables will be to work with municipal and band councils, find out what their level of interest is on food policy and what strategies can be put in place to move food policy forward over the next year or two. Based on this work, presentations will be developed for councils. Susan extended an invitation to anyone who would want to be involved in meetings related to this item, Chris Kawalec expressed interest.

4.0 Need Food (Short Term Relief)

Food for All brochures were distributed. The brochure is posted online here:
<http://www.pcchu.ca/NP/NP-images/PDF/foodforall2010.pdf>.

5.0 Get Involved (Capacity Building)

No update.

6.0 Create Change (System Change)

6.1 Community Food Centre Sub-Committee – Update (Susan Hubay)

Joëlle will chair an upcoming meeting which will be held at the YWCA on January 27th at 9:00 a.m. The subcommittee now includes five new farmers and a new dietitian. It was noted that the McConnell Foundation might be an outlet for future funding. Dr. Pellizzari requested that the subcommittee consider when to approach municipal and band councils on this.

7.0 Round Table

7.1 By The Bushel Food Cooperative – Frances Wilbur

The co-op is still looking for a permanent location.

7.2 Community Gardens – Joëlle Favreau

The structure of the Peterborough Community Gardens Network (PCGN) was analyzed in mid-December. Staffing for the PCGN was funded by a Trillium grant which has just finished, the network cannot reapply for additional funding until March. They are currently working on a report to Trillium (recapping previous activities) which is due at the end of January.

7.3 Community Meals Update – Faith Community members

Susan advised that a meeting has been called on January 19th with various Faith Community members (Out of the Cold, St. John's, Unitarian Fellowship) to improve the coordination of Saturday meals. The group suggested that the meeting should be used to plan for the remainder of the year and for 2012 if possible.

7.4 City of Peterborough Update – Dorothy Olver

Dorothy provided an update on the special diet allowance. While the Ministry will make some immediate changes, the allowance will be part of the larger social assistance review (details forthcoming). A notice has gone out to those receiving this allowance that a new reassessment form is coming in February; this form must be completed and submitted by July. Susan is working with John Coreno at the City to plan a strategy for those who do not have a family physician to complete this reassessment. Sondra LeBlanc, a nurse practitioner from the VON will assist with this process.

7.4 Food Security Community Partnership Program – Susan Hubay

Susan provided an overview of the Come Cook with Us (CCWU) program for 2010:

- Peter McCarthy and Janice McCue held 158 cooking classes with 474 people involved
- Locations: City of Peterborough, Curve Lake, Lovesick Lake, Buckhorn, Havelock, Millbrook, Norwood
- Reaches priority populations (those living on low incomes, parents, singles, first nations, seniors, youth, new Canadians)

With an increase in lineups at the drop-in class (pre-registration not required) at St. John's, they will be trying to figure out a solution for 2011.

7.5 Gleaning – Lori Sainte

No update.

7.6 JustFood Box Program – Joëlle Favreau

Joëlle advised that the documentary was being finalized, and that they were organizing a screening for late February. Members suggested a variety of screening locations including Our Space and CCWU classes. Funding for the Nourish Peterborough work is finished on March 11, 2011.

7.7 Kawartha Food Share – Chris Kawalec

No update.

7.8 Our Space/LETS Exchange – Margaret Wright

Margaret noted that the fundraiser by Our Space Executive Director, Ken Whatman, and Janet Mc Cue was well received. The LETS Exchange held a successful market at the Library in December

7.9 Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network (PPRN) – Margaret Wright

Margaret reported that the PPRN has hired a coordinator who will start on February 1st. They plan to launch a website in February which will be linked to the PCCHU and Nourish Peterborough sites.

7.10 School Update – Mary McGee, Terry Keating, Paula Anderson, Peter Hughes

No update.

7.11 COIN; Community Bake Oven – Linda Slavin

The Community Bake Oven subcommittee has not met. Marjorie noted that a proposal for the bake oven has gone to Trent Business students. The lunch program did not get the number of inscriptions required to move forward at the three schools (*reference item 7.12, December CFN Minutes*). They will move forward with a nursery school in September. They are seeking a commercial kitchen, it was suggested that Linda follow up with the Synagogue or Bible College.

8.0 Other

Seedy Sunday: Peterborough's Annual Seed Exchange 2011 takes place on Sunday, March 13 from 1 - 4 p.m. at St. James United Church. For more information:

<http://urbantomato.blogspot.com>.

9.0 Agenda Items for February 2011

No items were identified at the meeting.

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

REMINDER – NEXT MEETING: February 10, 2011 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am at St. John's Anglican Church, Lounge.