

**Community Food Network (CFN) Meeting  
MINUTES**

Thursday, October 20, 2011

1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

**St. John's Anglican Church – Lounge**

**Attendees:** Susan Hubay (Interim Chair), Joëlle Favreau, Dorothy Boddy, Peter Hughes, Peggy Baillie, Marie Bongard, Judy Girard, Fred Irwin, Pat Learmonth, Dawn Berry-Merriam, Chantal Devereaux, AJ Sweeney, Lindsay Archer, Julie Stoneberg, Alida Tanna (Recorder)

**Regrets:** Dr. Rosana Pellizzari

**Welcome and Introductions**

**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

**2.0 Presentations:**

**2.1 Peterborough Housing - Susan Bacque, Manager, Housing Division, City of Peterborough**

This item was deferred.

**2.2 Peterborough Social Planning Council (PSPC) Discussion Paper**

The Future: Peterborough Food & Farming – Dawn Berry-Merriam, Pat Learmonth

This discussion paper, prepared by the PSPC and Farms at Work, arose from a meeting in November, 2010, hosted by the PSPC with a number of food producers to discuss the report "Menu 2020: Ten Good Food Ideas for Ontario". The PSPC paper can be viewed here:

[http://www.pspc.on.ca/pdf/final\\_report\\_oct\\_6\\_the\\_future\\_of\\_food.pdf](http://www.pspc.on.ca/pdf/final_report_oct_6_the_future_of_food.pdf).

Dawn and Pat felt this paper provided a local picture of the changing rural infrastructure in Peterborough. Also included are local facts in relation to global trends around food and food production.

Timing the release of this paper was important, as it coincided with the City's Official Plan review, as well as the Bring Food Home (BFH) Conference which takes place later this month at Trent University. The paper was also presented to County Council yesterday; during the presentation Council members were also apprised of the BFH conference, and a number indicated their intent to attend.

Next steps identified by Pat and Dawn include taking the paper out to local groups and farmers, as well as non-traditional partners to garner their support. These could include: Community Futures, GPAEDC, Women's Institute, and the Peterborough

Chamber of Commerce. As well, they hope to present again to County Council in a few months with an update on developments.

Additional issues discussed at the meeting included:

- Availability of local food being sold in local stores, and the definition of “local” which can vary. Pat suggested that as a community, we can decide what the definition should be. Joëlle inquired whether there are statistics available to use as a benchmark. These are likely available from Foodland Ontario, however the scope may include all of Ontario.
- In the case of poultry (as an example), chickens consumed at local restaurants, and purchased at farmers markets are from quota holders, and not from smaller growers. Pat provided some background on small flock regulation. This regulation covers non-quota growers, who can only grow up to 300 chickens per premise/per year, and are only able to market these chickens at the farm gate.
- There are potentially two generations of Ontarians/Canadians who cannot cook, and as such, cannot take advantage of the bounty of local produce that is available.
- Fred Irwin commented the underlying issue is that the current economic system is broken, and through initiatives of Transition Town, there should be a move to introduce a new local economic infrastructure.
- Any benefits from a reduction in food production costs have not trickled down to the growers.
- Advertising paints an image of farms that do not exist in Peterborough County. Almost 100% of farms are family owned, but can feed into a larger industrial food systems.
- Need options that are not large/corporate for local farmers. For example, anyone with intentions to pursue dairy or poultry farming are faced with prohibitive startup costs.
- Local tracking/identification – have assurance that products (e.g. poultry) purchased at local supermarkets come from local farms, and can be identified as such.

**DECISION: A response document will be prepared by the CFN which will include recommendations for change. Most will be pulled from the CFN submission to the City’s Official Plan Review. This document can be viewed here:**

**<http://www.pcchu.ca/CFN/CFN%20Plan%20It%20Submission%20Aug%202011.pdf>**

**ACTION: A large portion of the November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting will be dedicated to this work, along with planning for 2012-13.**

### **3.0 Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2011**

The minutes were approved as circulated.

#### **4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

##### **4.1 Local Foods Plus Update (Paula Anderson, Pat Learmonth)**

Pat did not have an update to provide, however she did believe that Paula was working on this initiative with her students at Trent University.

Peter advised that Fleming College recently renegotiated their cafeteria/catering contract. It was awarded to Chartwells, and featured a number of important elements including a local food piece (10% of food must be from within a 200 mile radius) as well as a zero waste component. **ACTION: Peter to provide a summary at the next CFN meeting.**

##### **4.2 CFN Peterborough Plan It Submission (Susan Hubay)**

Susan relayed that she received confirmation that the submission was received by the City from Dorothy Olver.

#### **5.0 Need Food (Short Term Relief)**

No update.

#### **6.0 Get Involved (Capacity Building)**

##### **6.1 Bring Food Home Conference Update (Pat Learmonth)**

Pat advised that the latest schedule had been posted. A keynote panel will take place at Showplace on Thursday, October, 27<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION: Members interested in a display table at Showplace, as well as at the Conference were directed to contact Pat for more details.**

#### **7.0 Create Change (System Change)**

No update.

#### **8.0 Round Table**

##### **8.1 By The Bushel Food Cooperative (BTBFC)**

Susan noted that BTBFC will be taking part in one of the tours for the BFH conference.

##### **8.2 Community Gardens – PCGN Members**

The Liftlock Garden has been very well received by Parks Canada, and it appears that the size may double. This may take place within the next two weeks, opportunities will be made available to residents of apartment buildings in the vicinity. It was noted by attendees that this would be an opportunity to plant local wildflowers (which promote pollination) and feature birdhouses.

The Peterborough Community Garden Network is made up of representatives from a number of organizations including the Health Unit, YWCA, Fleming and Green-Up. After completing 3 years with Trillium funding support, the management committee of the PCGN is entering its next stage of planning. One area of focus will be to

address the alternative gardening for the downtown area (e.g. container gardens, portable gardens, rooftop gardens).

Jill noted that a community garden in the west end of Peterborough is being developed, more details will be provided when confirmed.

8.3 Community Meals Update – Faith Community Members

Out of the Cold beings on November 1<sup>st</sup> and operates out of the Stone School (corner of Rubidge/Hunter) on Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., until March 31<sup>st</sup>.

St. John's has confirmed its Community Christmas Lunch on December 24<sup>th</sup> at noon and will be serving tourtière and turkey pies.

8.4 Municipal Update – Chantelle Devereaux

Chantelle advised that the City is working to prepare for the 2% increase for Ontario Works recipients on December 1.

8.5 Food Security Community Partnership Program – Susan Hubay

No update.

8.6 Gleaning, Our Space – Lori Sainte

Dorothy Boddy commented that Our Space held a successful Annual General Meeting the night prior, and that the majority of votes cast for Board member elections were made by users of the facility.

8.7 JustFood Box Program – Joëlle Favreau

JustFood Box packing was recently filmed for a documentary. Peggy Baillie is working with a local filmmaker to document local food systems with a focus on small scale farmers. Peggy is looking at collaborating with filmmakers from across Canada.

8.8 LETS Exchange – Margaret Wright

Deferred.

8.9 Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network (PPRN) – Chris Kawalec

Susan circulated copies of the Peterborough Poverty Report Card which was recently released by the PPRN. The report follows the same format as the provincial strategy however it features local data. The intention is to update this yearly. The report card can be viewed here: <http://www.pcchu.ca/Plans/2011%20Report%20Card.pdf>

8.10 Education Sector Update – Mary McGee, Terry Keating, Paula Anderson, Peter Hughes

No update.

8.11 COIN; Community Bake Oven

No update.

8.12 Farmer's Markets – Jillian Bishop

No update.

8.13 Kawartha FoodShare – Lindsay Archer

Lindsay advised that the web site (<http://www.kawarthafoodshare.com/>) is now up and running. A food handling course (specific to food banks with a focus on managing/monitoring inventory of canned/frozen foods, etc.) is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. Details will be posted on the web site.

**9.0 Other**

None.

**10.0 Agenda Items for November 2011**

- Peterborough Housing Presentation
- CFN Recommendations re: Peterborough Social Planning Council (PSPC)  
Discussion Paper - The Future: Peterborough Food & Farming
- 2012-13 Planning

**11.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

*Parked Items*

*Backyard Hens (Paula Anderson)*

*December 2011 – United Way Presentation*

**REMINDER – NEXT MEETING: November 17, 2011, 1 – 2:30 p.m., at St. John's Anglican Church, Lounge.**