

## Community Food Network (CFN) Meeting

### MINUTES

Thursday, April 21, 2011

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

St. John's Anglican Church – Lounge

**Attendees:** Marjorie MacDonald, Alisia Lee, Peter Hughes, Lori Sainte, Joëlle Favreau, Marie Bongard, Linda Slavin, Cheryl Lyon, Dorothy Olver, Susan Hubay (Interim Chair), Alida Tanna (Recorder), Hanah MacFarlane.

**Regrets:** Sonya Hardman, Dorothy Boddy, Dr. Rosana Pellizzari.

### Welcome and Introductions

#### 1.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated. Item 6.2, Food Policy Presentation was moved up to precede approval of the minutes from the previous meeting.

#### 6.2 Food Policy Presentation

Cheryl Lyon presented her work on the status of food policy in Peterborough City, County, and with local First Nations. Funded by Healthy Communities Ontario, the goal of this project was to develop a plan for engagement with municipal and band councils to strengthen the development and impact of food strategies in the community.

Cheryl met with a number of stakeholders including City, County and Township councillors; Band Chiefs and staff from First Nation community health services; as well as members of the agricultural sector. She expressed thanks to CFN members Dorothy Boddy and Paula Anderson for their input.

A report has been prepared for the CFN which outlines 22 recommendations, which can be undertaken through a two pronged approach: community development, and engaging political leaders.

Some general thoughts regarding community development included:

- Education on the meaning and significance of food security is key; awareness ranges from high to none, with variances in urban vs. rural settings
- Make successes visible to the local community
- Hold public and key informant consultations; identify key stakeholders who will support policy development (e.g. shelter users, food bank users, municipal planners, faith groups)
- Use interactive visuals in the consultation process wherever possible
- Identify and conduct research, tailor strategies to the specific area in question

- Quantify the economic impact of the food security policy that you are recommending
- Understand and clearly differentiate values of urban and rural communities; (e.g. self reliance is of great important to rural populations)
- Acknowledge that the process will take time; a minimum of two years to have a strategy/policy in place

Strategies to engage politicians include:

- Hold introductory meetings with individuals; champions have been identified on various councils
- Formally present the concept to councils after those introductory meetings have taken place
- Determine the most appropriate time/venue for introducing food policy; identify current priorities for each council.
- Begin with specific/understandable measures
- Scan for opportunities. For example, Curve Lake is currently reviewing its nutrition policy, while the City of Peterborough is in the process of reviewing it's official plan.
- Garner senior municipal staff support (planning and economic development, social services, parks and recreation, public health) through educational meetings. An important group to engage at the County would be the Warden's Committee
- With First Nations, support their own health teams to bring policies forward to Band Councils

*Marie Bongard departed the meeting at 10:45 a.m.*

Cheryl previewed a presentation that can be utilized with the various councils. The group discussed potential next steps:

- Send the report to the councillors included in Appendix A (List of Consultations), ask for their recommendation as to when a presentation should be made.
- Provide councillors with details of the CFN, including membership.
- Provide an executive summary, note that the report is a strategy document for the CFN.
- Consider the development of a food charter
- Circulate the report amongst CFN members.

A food policy working group has been formed to carry on this work. Sonya Hardman, Joëlle Favreau, Chris Kawalec (tentative) and Jillian Bishop have expressed interest in joining this working group, which will also include Susan Hubay and Alisia Lee from the Health Unit.

**ACTION: CFN members who are interested in joining this work group are asked to contact Susan Hubay.**

An application to Healthy Communities Ontario has been submitted to fund additional work on food policy, a response is expected in June. Areas of focus identified by a recent community

assessment report by the Healthy Communities Partnership in Peterborough are: mental health, physical activity and food security. The full report can be viewed here: <http://pcchu.peterborough.on.ca/Plans/Community%20Assessment%20Report%202010%20-November%2011.pdf>.

Susan distributed a number of documents to the group on food policy and charters:

- a) Building Healthy Communities – Food Access, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. Link: [http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Libraries/JFY\\_Communities/Food\\_Access\\_F\\_S\\_sep2010.sflb.ashx](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Libraries/JFY_Communities/Food_Access_F_S_sep2010.sflb.ashx)
- b) Food Charter, City of Kawartha Lakes. Link: <http://www.kawarthafieldnaturalists.org/Brochure.pdf>
- c) FoodNet Ontario information pamphlet. For details on FoodNet Ontario please visit: <http://foodnetontario.ca>
- d) Summary of Types of Municipal Policies for Access to Nutritious Food. Source: Report to the Community Food Network on Strategies for Political Engagement in a Food Security Policy Action Plan (March 2011), prepared by Cheryl Lyon. Details found on pages 24-25. *NOTE: This report will be posted on the pcchu.ca/food web site on June 1, 2011.*

Food Charters (2011) from FoodNet Ontario. Accessed on April 20, 2011. Link: <http://foodnetontario.ca/wp/policy-advocacy/charters/>

With respect to the federal election, Susan provided a link to the People's Food Policy Project. Link: <http://www.peoplesfoodpolicy.ca/getinvolved>.

## 2.0 Approval of Minutes – March 17, 2011

Corrections were made to the attendees and regrets for the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## 3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

### 3.1 Easter Meals

St. John's will host a brunch on Saturday. On Easter Sunday, Our Space is open 10am – 4pm; they will host a meal at St. Paul's at 5pm.

## 4.0 Need Food (Short Term Relief)

No update.

## 5.0 Get Involved (Capacity Building)

### 5.1 Low Income Market Proposal (Susan)

Susan has spoken with Andrew from Circle Organics. She has directed him to speak with Lori Sainte and Lori confirmed that they have talked. They will discuss whether there is an opportunity to sell remaining food from the market to members of the community living on low income.

## 6.0 Create Change (System Change)

### 6.1 Community Food Centre Sub-Committee – Update (Joëlle Favreau)

The Centre for Social Innovation (CSI) is planning to submit an application to the Community Future Development Corporation to engage in a feasibility study regarding a CFC and a CSI.

The YWCA has submitted a proposal to the McConnell Foundation regarding a CFC site and staffing for a 3-year period.

The YWCA has also submitted a proposal to the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough to work with an architect to develop concept drawings for the CFC.

### 6.2 Food Policy Presentation (Cheryl Lyon)

Please refer to item. 1.0 for details.

## 7.0 Round Table

Item 7.11 was moved up in the agenda.

### 7.11 COIN; Community Bake Oven – Linda Slavin

Survey research is forthcoming regarding the bake oven. Frances Wilbur has joined the staff at COIN and is no longer with By The Bushel.

*Linda Slavin departed the meeting at 11:15am*

### 7.1 By The Bushel Food Cooperative (BTB) – Hannah MacFarlane

Hannah MacFarlane is the new contact for BTB.

The storefront is not open yet, the grand opening has been postponed until June 9. Baskets will be available the following week. The Annual General Meeting has been scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Their new location is behind the Youth Emergency Shelter (YES) in Peterborough (Brock Street between George and Aylmer).

### 7.2 Community Gardens – Jillian Bishop, Peter Hughes

A community meeting will be held on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the meeting will be to foster connections between friends and neighbours to encourage gardening, sharing backyards, and growing in containers.

Jill and Peter met with the City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to update them on work of the PCGN and provide a framework on community gardening.

### 7.3 Community Meals Update – Faith Community Members

Please refer to item 7.4 (Brock) and 3.1, Community Meals Update.

7.4 Municipal Update – Dorothy Olver

Brock Mission will be without a cook at the end of April, and as such, cannot host the Open Table in May.

7.5 Food Security Community Partnership Program – Susan Hubay

No update.

7.6 Gleaning – Lori Sainte

Gleaning is ramping up, Lori has been busy coordinating with farmers and other community contacts.

7.7 JustFood Box Program – Joëlle Favreau

The screening of Nourish Peterborough was very successful, with over 240 people in attendance. DVDs were sold out at the event, copies have been reordered. The DVD is an excellent tool to promote local food initiatives and issues regarding food security.

7.8 Our Space/LETS Exchange – Lori Sainte

Our Space has changed it's hours of operation to 10am – 4pm; when Open Table is not available, the hours will be 10am – 6pm. The Board is interested in hosting the Open Table, but is limited by space.

The next LETS Exchange is at the Sadleir House on May 14, 10am – 3pm

7.9 Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network – Chris Kawalec

Deferred.

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

Marjorie noted that the Trent Centre is working with Paula Anderson on a food course. She also advised that the GPAEDC is undertaking a business expansion/retention plan and will be surveying shortly. **ACTION: Marjorie will get an update on this for the next CFN meeting.**

7.11 COIN; Community Bake Oven – Linda Slavin

Please refer to item 7.0 for details.

8.0 Other

Susan advised that Transition Town was seeking a representative to attend a meeting regarding the Slow Food and Culture Festival. The meeting date was April 26 from 3-5 p.m. at the Sadleir House.

The Peterborough Downtown Farmers Market starts on Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup> in the St. Louis Parking Lot (near Aylmer and Charlotte). Another downtown market takes place on Thursdays in the courtyard at Peterborough Square (near Water and Charlotte).

9.0 Agenda Items for May 2011  
None identified at the meeting.

10.0 Adjournment  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Parked Items

*Backyard Hens (Paula Anderson) – ref. March 2011*

*Community Mapping (Susan Hubay) – ref. March 2011*

**REMINDER – NEXT MEETING: May 19, 2011 at St. John’s Anglican Church, Lounge.**