

Community Food Network Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

St. John's Anglican Church – Follow signs to meeting room

Attendees: Susan Hubay (Interim Chair), Julie Stoneberg, Margaret Wright, Carol Winter, Marie Bongard, Joëlle Favreau, Sonya Hardman, Linda Slavin, Goodith Heeney, Dorothy Boddy, Kellie Walden, Alida Tanna (Recorder)

Regrets: Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Mary McGee, Lori Sainte, Terence Keating.

Welcome and Introductions

1.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 7.1, Fundraising Opportunity and item 7.2, Meeting Announcement. Susan advised that the lounge would be the permanent location for meetings from now on.

2.0 Approval of Minutes – April 6, 2010

The minutes were approved as circulated.

3.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

3.1 Food Security Work Plan 2010-2011 Committee

This item was deferred until June.

3.2 Bring Food Home Conference Report, March 2010 – Follow-up with Rosana and Peterborough Youth Council

This item was deferred until June.

4.0 Round Table

4.1 School Update – Mary McGee, Terry Keating

This item was deferred.

4.2 Community Gardens – Jillian, Peter, Joëlle, Paula

Joëlle advised that there were plans to expand the Armour Road Garden and discussions are ongoing with the Peterborough Utilities Commission. There is a new community led garden at Stewart and Charlotte that will have raised beds. There was discussion about using tires for raised beds and whether chemicals could leach out from the rubber. Joëlle has had experience using tires for a children's garden, soil was tested and there was no effect. Linda advised that COIN will buy vegetables from local gardens for their catering (café/library). The next meeting of the PCGN will be in the third week of May.

4.3 By The Bushel Food Cooperative (BTBFC) – Paula

Linda advised that there are a few shares left, cost is \$600 for a full basket, \$300 for a half basket. The number of baskets available has been increased to 120. Mark Street United Church remains the pick-up location. If there is interest in purchasing a winter basket, a \$50 deposit must be made now. Visit the web site (<http://www.bythebushel.ca>) for more information. BTBFC has hired a new general manager, Frances Wilbur.

4.4 Our Space – Margaret

Margaret advised that the kitchen will hopefully be completed this month. At a recent city council meeting, various issues were raised by neighbours (ie. clients were sitting on front porches smoking; they felt they were not invited to the open house). Sonya expressed that there is community and council support, however work must be done on bridge building with the community to ease their concerns. Margaret is attempting to secure a paralegal to come and speak with clients to give them a better understanding of legalities (ie. acceptable behavior), Julie suggested contacting the police and have an officer speak to this. Council deferred discussion for further consideration, this will likely come back in 3-6 weeks. Dorothy requested that letters of support should go to council. Margaret also advised that they are contemplating a reduction in hours at Our Space.

4.5 Gleaning – Lori

A letter of support addressed to community members was circulated via email to the network. Joëlle advised that a proposal went to the Ministry of Health Promotion requesting funding for gleaning into 2011 and expects to hear back in July. There was discussion on how to broaden the current base of farmers, Sonya recommended that there should be more involvement with the County, especially since farmers sit on township councils. **ACTION: Sonya to discuss this further with Lori. Susan to include presentations to township councils to the work plan.**

4.6 Food Security Community Partnership Program – Sue

Sue reported that the four programs are thriving and doing well. She clarified that the Healthy Communities Fund, as well as other funders, supports cooking classes at Prince of Wales, food boxes, collective kitchens, and Come Cook With Us classes in the County (most recently in Norwood, Buckhorn and Apsley). Marie wondered if there were classes in Lakefield. Sue responded that availability of suitable space for classes has been an issue.

4.7 JustFood Box Program – Joëlle

Joëlle advised that 44% of food boxes are distributed in the County. The program has sufficient funding to operate for the year.

4.8 Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network – Rosana

Donna and Linda reported on the Income Security Working Group, referred to previously in item 4.4. They are currently working on reproducing 'Do The Math'

postcards for Peterborough. The communications contact for the PPRN is Lois Tuffin, however Margaret and Dorothy both sit on the communications committee. There will be a Neighbours in Action BBQ on June 15th from 5:30 p.m. to dusk.

4.9 Kawartha Food Share – Chris

This item was deferred. **ACTION: Susan to discuss meeting conflict with Chris. Bring forward to June meeting.**

4.10 Community Food Centre – Linda

The last meeting of this group was on March 29th at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School (TASS). The group received a tour of the greenhouse at TASS. TASS partners with the health unit and other organizations to provide seedlings. There is a kitchen available for use, there are discussions to host canning workshops and a Come Cook With Us series.

4.11 Community Meals Update – Faith Community members

Goodith relayed that they are seeing many people at community meals (over 120), which include an increasing number of children and teen moms. While they can always use volunteers for Saturday morning meals (8:30am – 11:30am), they will be implementing a minimum of 3 dates for volunteers to get a sense of the work before they commit their time on an ongoing basis. This led to discussion on creating a video to use as a tool for advocacy, Linda suggested 'Not Enough' as a working title. The group felt this would be an opportunity to engage the youth council in creating this educational piece. **ACTION: Goodith to secure film previously created by the Anglican church. Joelle to speak at the next meeting about storytelling history to move this forward.** On a related note, Sue did not have any update on the status of the ISARC audit.

4.12 City of Peterborough Update – Sonya Hardman

Sonya advised that she was currently working on the potential launch of a food bank in Buckhorn however it was facing some roadblocks including volunteers, community support and location. Sonya will be meeting with the faith communities in the township to move this forward. Work with the Buckhorn Parent Council on the Sobey's Earth Fund submission regarding community gardens is still ongoing. A school in Apsley will be starting a community garden, however they are still in the initial stages of its development.

4.13 Kawartha Choice – Karen Jopling

No update.

4.14 LETS Exchange – Margaret

Margaret provided a brief overview of the Peterborough LETS Exchange. The organization which has been in Peterborough for 15 years is a local barter system where goods and services are traded for green dollars which can be used to buy goods or services. To participate, individuals or organizations can join. The LETS

will now hold markets at the Library. For more information, visit <http://ptbolets.50webs.com/>.

5.0 Items for Discussion

None.

6.0 Advocacy Opportunities

None.

7.0 Other

7.1 Fundraising Opportunity

Marie advised that there will be a walk on May 30 which will raise funds for dog guides (service dogs providing assistance to those with mobility, hearing and vision issues, training can cost upwards of \$25,000 per dog). Pledge sheets can be found at the Lions Centre, for more information contact (705) 745-8942.

7.2 Meeting Announcement

Carol relayed that there will be 2 community meetings (May 4, 4:30 p.m.; May 10, 7:00 p.m.) held at the Peterborough & District Labour Council regarding the hospital.

8.0 Agenda Items for June 2010

- Bake oven
- Work plan

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

REMINDER – NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 1st, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. John's Anglican Church, room to be confirmed.