

# Community Food Network Meeting

## MINUTES

Tuesday, April 7, 2009  
10:00 am to 11:30 am  
St. John's Anglican Church

**Attended by:** Susan Hubay (Chairperson), Alida Tanna (Recorder), Linda Slavin, Dorothy Olver, Julie Stoneberg, Chris Kawalec, Peggy Baillie, Jackie Farquharson, Paula Anderson, Jillian Bishop, Joëlle Favreau, Peter Hughes, Dorothy Boddy, Kim Naish, Margaret Wright, Kevin Derry

**Regrets:** Dr. Pellizzari, Cheryl Lyon

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Susan Hubay at 10:10am. Susan introduced Alida Tanna, the new administrative assistant to Dr. Pellizzari from the Health Unit. The group was reminded that any correspondence should be sent to her, as well as any items that require posting to the web site.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Approved with additions of 5.3, 5.4, 6.1

3.0 Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2009

Approved as circulated.

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 Community Food Security Discussion & Definitions – Paula Anderson and Susan Hubay

There are various terms that are widely used (ie/ sustainability, environmentally sound practices, organic, etc.) that need to be defined. Susan distributed an activity for members to fill out titled “What Does Food Insecurity Affect?” The activity and other related materials can be found at [www.foodthoughtful.ca](http://www.foodthoughtful.ca). Feedback from the group included: the cost of food affects donations; lack of food affects our emotional and physical health and divides us; farmers and local economy suffer; an unbalanced diet leads to significant health problems including serious dental issues; long term planning is difficult at times as the short term need is so immediate and urgent; the notion that it is based on me, not we (societal issue, not individual).

Various definitions from across the country were presented. Susan presented a model for framing food security issues from Nova Scotia which covers three broad categories existing on a continuum: short term relief, individual and community capacity building, system change.

**ACTION: The food security discussion will be brought forward to the May agenda. The group was asked to review the current definitions and be prepared to discuss them at the next meeting. Linda Slavin will bring in the model from Africa for further reference to framing the food security issue. Susan will compile the responses from the activity “What Does Food Security Affect?” to share at the May meeting.**

#### 4.2 Community Food Directory

The city produces a monthly calendar of events which is published on their web site. The Health Unit produces “Food for All” that summarizes local food programs that address hunger and individual food insecurity. Paula Anderson has a comprehensive directory of food system programs.

### 5.0 Updates

#### 5.1 Community Garden Subcommittee - Peggy Bailie

This subcommittee has already held 2 meetings. The structure was an informal, open dialogue format. A meeting with the city is taking place later today regarding developing policy for community gardens.

#### 5.2 Food Security Work Plan – Susan Hubay

Chris from Kawartha Food Share (KFS) discussed tripling the amount of food that has been delivered over the last 3 years. Capacity of the member agencies is in trouble as it is run by aging volunteers, and recruitment is an issue. The youth warehouse training program was short term. Member agencies are seeing an increase in individuals coming to access food, KFS is trying to meet the demand although they are challenged with this. **ACTION: Item will be added to the May agenda for further discussion.**

#### 5.3 Poverty Reduction Network – Web Site/Brainstorming

The website for the PRN will incorporate a food section. The group was asked for feedback regarding the potential content. Suggestions for the site included the necessity for a discussion board and an events and programs section. Paula recommended building the food section under three general areas to engage a broader group: (1) Need food? (2) Want to get involved? (3) Want to work towards change?

It was also suggested to look at Ottawa Just Food Site. The link to their web site is: <http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/ofsc/>. Their directory link is:

[http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/ofsc/en/food\\_link\\_final/FoodLink2008FINAL\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.spcottawa.on.ca/ofsc/en/food_link_final/FoodLink2008FINAL_ENG.pdf)

**ACTIONS: Susan and Peggy offered her assistance to Margaret to help with content and to create a web site that can be accessed through the Health Unit and linked to the PRN site.**

#### 5.4 Farmers/Schools/Hospitals

Dr. Pellizzari passed on some very preliminary information regarding Premier McGuinty and an announcement of assistance for farmers who supply food to schools and hospitals. The Community Food Security Coalition has extensive info on this relationship in the United States. Their web site is:

<http://www.foodsecurity.org/>.

**ACTIONS: Additional details should become available to the public over the next month. Item will be added to the next agenda for further discussion.**

#### 6.0 Advocacy Opportunities

##### 6.1 Healthy Food Supplement Program

Dr. Pellizzari will be attending a meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> regarding the Healthy Food Supplement. While provincial support did not come to fruition, the advocacy for this supplement is continuing. The meeting will be taking place at the Stop Community Drive Centre in Toronto from 10am – 4pm. Ideally the attendee will be a low-income activist, the health unit would cover the cost of a bus ticket.

**ACTION: Please contact Alida with the names of any individuals who wish to attend as soon as possible.**

#### 7.0 Agenda Items for May

- Needs Assessment For Seniors: connecting with single seniors under the poverty line – discussion topic
- Food Security Definition
- Website update
- Kawartha Food Share Update for the Food Security Work Plan
- Community Gardens Update
- Healthy Food Supplement Update
- Farmers to Institutions discussion

#### 8.0 Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:33am.

##### Other:

- Please see Kawartha World Issues Centre if you are interested in viewing “A New Season Coming”. The DVD looks at the relationship between new and experienced farmers in Kingston, ON and their cooperative movement.
- Event/site of interest: Carrot City Exchange @ the Design Exchange in Toronto, <http://www.ryerson.ca/carrotcity/>.

**REMINDER – NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 5, 2009 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am at St. John’s Anglican Church in the lounge.**