

Community Food Network Meeting

Minutes of January 13, 2009

Attendance: Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Jen (Social Service student at Fleming College), Lori Sainte, Margaret Wright, Jackie Farquharson, Susan Hubay, Joëlle Favreau, Peter Hughes, Gordon Finney, Maisie Watson, Michel Gratton, Paula Anderson, Linda Slavin, Dorothy Boddy, Yolanda Jones, Chris Kawalec, Kim Blodgett

1.0 Welcome and Membership

Members introduced themselves and their linkage to food security issues.

Rosana explained that she is making some personal phone calls to invite people to this group, and will be sending out letters as well. She also noted that there is a timing conflict with another committee of the Poverty Reduction Committee (Basic Needs) and she will resolve this with that Committee's Chair.

ACTIONS:

Sue to update membership list and prepare minutes.

Rosana to speak to Basic Needs Committee Chair and complete the invitations to all stakeholders identified at the December 2008 meeting.

2.0 Poverty Reduction Committee

The Community Food Network will report to the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Committee (PPRC) through the Chair. The overall structure is under review presently. Some members mentioned that it is critical that the new structure of the PPRC is rooted in the results of the community consultations and groups like the Community Food Network. The PPRC must ensure that low income community members are active and represented at all levels of the Poverty Reduction implementation plan and in a way that they can be respected and heard. It is also critical that the Community Food Network and the Employment and Income groups collaborate where necessary since adequate income is essential for food security.

ACTION:

Rosana will bring these ideas forward to future PPRC meetings.

3.0 Terms of Reference Discussion

A suggestion was made to broaden points #3 and #5 to acknowledge the importance of community food security and local food production. It was suggested that there is a need for a definition of food security.

In terms of priorities for 2009, Paula mentioned that are some community members are working on food policy issues and a food charter. It was felt that it would be appropriate for these issues to be brought forward for endorsement and discussion at the Community Food Network.

Susan and Rosana updated the group on the need for future funding for the Food Security Community Partnership (FSCP) programs. The community partners involved are looking

into funding opportunities and letters of support will be needed in the future. In addition the need for funding will be highlighted to the Cabinet of the PPRC.

Rosana will chair the CFN, and suggested that the Terms of Reference are reviewed in six months time.

ACTION:

Rosana will discuss future funding for the FSCP programs to the attention of the PPRC Cabinet. The terms of reference will be amended and redistributed with the agenda of the following meeting.

4.0 Here and Now Gifts

Gordon Finney announced that St. Johns Anglican Church has received a letter and donation of \$25,000 from the Atkinson Foundation, recognizing their commitment to working on issues of poverty reduction and supports to vulnerable community members. The funds are to be used for issues relating to food, clothing and housing, and to be distributed in consultation with the Food Action Network. St. Johns was applauded for their excellent contributions to the Peterborough community.

ACTION:

A group of representatives met to plan for the use of this fund immediately after this meeting. They will report back next month.

5.0 2008-2009 Food Security Work Plan

Copies of the work plan were circulated.

ACTION:

2008-2009 Food Security Work Plan to be sent electronically to CFN members. Paula will bring some suggestions for a definition of food security for the CFN to consider at the next meeting. Paula will keep the CFN updated on the work of the food policy and food coop groups in our community.

6.0 Round Table Updates

Our Space: The drop-centre opened on December 15th, 2008 and see about 100 people daily. It is opened from 9 am to 9 pm and is located in the old legion on Murray Street. Entrance is the front door to the right. Most equipment is in place however they are still waiting on water and electrical hookups. Food is always appreciated and there is a need for an arctic sleeping bag for one client. (Wild Rock may be a source for this). Margaret noted that they are aware of shut-ins in our community that may need services and identified this as a gap which Our Space volunteers may be looking into. People were concerned about services after 9 pm. There are shelters as well as an Emergency City Hall service to ensure that everyone has a place to sleep if they want one. Our Space representatives were applauded for the commitment and hard work to achieve this drop-in.

Kawartha Food Share

Chris stated that KFS is in a period of rapid growth in terms of amount of food distributed; the number of member agencies; and square footage at the warehouse. They have received a Trillium grant to increase staffing and have a truck to improve food distribution and pickup. Recent fundraisers have been very successful including the Three Looneys; Food Drives; and the Kawartha Cardiology Clinic/Krueger Bros. event.

Growers Food Cooperative

Paula and Linda have been working on a Growers Coop and Food Policy Council. The growers are meeting tonight to work towards ways of increasing access to healthy and ecologically grown food in our community. Paula will be speaking at a Transition Town forum on Permaculture on Wednesday, January 14th, 2009 at the Public Library.

Next Meeting: We will meet on the second Tuesday of every month.

February 10, 2009

Time: 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Location: St. John's Anglican Church Lounge