

Connecticut Food Policy Council (CFPC)
Minutes – May 11, 2017

Members in attendance: Marcia Pessolano, Bill Seedman, Wayne Pesce

Guests in attendance: Meg Hourigan, Helana Hoover-Litty, Lucy Potter, Mirando Muro, Kristine Reed

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Marcia Pessolano.

Welcome and Introductions: Marcia Pessolano welcomed the members and guests. Introductions were made.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Postponed until the next meeting.

Additions to the agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Administration

-Lucy Nolan is leaving EHC and thus, a new chair/vice chair will need to be determined.

Presentation: Food Solutions New England (Martha Page, Hartford Food System) *see slides for more details

Food Solutions New England is a regional, collaborative network organized to support the emergence and continued viability of a New England food system that is a resilient driver of healthy food for all, racial equity, sustainable farming and fishing, and thriving communities. Food Solutions New England was launched in response to a shared sense that greater connectivity was needed across food system efforts and innovations, and began with our inaugural New England Food Summit in 2011. We have been working since then to develop greater connectivity and alignment around a long-term food system vision built upon shared values of racial equity and food justice across the entire value chain and system, public health, and ecological integrity in New England.

Overview of FSNE: Transforming New England food system together through collective impact initiative; backbone organization is UNH Sustainability Institute.

Vision: “50 x 60” – 50% of food consumed by region grown in region by 2060.

UNH gets funding as the backbone organization and has several key “teams” to work on initiative. The vision requires approximately 2 million additional acres of farmland but the question is do the states want it? Each of the six states represented has a formal food plan except CT.

Key: need consumer perspective.

Agency/Member/Guest Updates

- Hartford Food System/Meg Hourigan – CFSA meeting on July 22: theme is CT's role in food system advocacy.
- DSS/Bill Seedman – DSS very interested in food system advocacy and is support HFS; on May 23 USDA has a webinar on advancing SNAP farmers market participation; there is a phase-in happening with new eligibility system (Norwich/Waterbury in June, Bridgeport in July, West Haven after that). Over 50% of cases are on new system currently.

Next meeting will be on June 8 at 1:00 pm, Location TBD.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm Motion made to adjourn by Marcia Pessolano, Bill Seedman seconded