



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



CONSUMER TRAINING AND EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD Monday, June 24, 2013 Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Large Conference Room 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jason Hoagland, Consumer Training and Education Working Group chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:24pm. Jason represents CT Agricultural Education Foundation. Other working group members present were:

Tera Harlow	Rockville Vocational Agriculture Program
John Frassinelli	CT Dept of Education
William Seedman	CT Dept of Social Services
Robert Miller	Eastern Highland Health District
Linda Drake	UC, Cooperative Extension System, Nutritional Sciences
Sofia Segura-Perez	Hispanic Health Council

Working group members William Duesing, CT-NOFA and Christine Applewhite, CT Dept Public Health were absent.

Others present:

Linda Piotrowicz	CT Dept of Agriculture, Representing Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, Chairman Governor's Council for Agricultural Development
Joseph Dippel	CT Dept of Agriculture staff

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Working group members introduced themselves and provided information about their areas of expertise.

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Jason Hoagland provided an overview of the council's work since it convened in January 2012.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENT

Jason Hoagland introduced the assignment that the Consumer Training and Education Working Group will be undertaking in 2013. The assignment, based on the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development, First Annual Report, dated December 2012, is to:

"Establish a bridge between the State Departments of Agriculture and Education through a dedicated agricultural education coordinator, and develop ways to integrate agriculture into Connecticut's K-12 curriculum."

V. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT DELIVERABLES

The group engaged in an in-depth discussion about its assignment and came to consensus on the following to be produced:

Create a full time position that will perform the following:

1. Create and promote state agricultural education standards.
2. Assist and/or facilitate programs with Food Corps, Future Farmers of America and other related programs.
3. Develop an agricultural 'tool kit' of curriculum for school districts and teachers to use, for all levels K-12, ideally available through a web-site.

4. Inventory and educate districts and teachers about existing programs.
5. Develop a way to measure the advancement of agricultural education curriculum success, and if students are eating healthier as a result, and supporting CT-Grown.
6. Develop and foster school/student relationships with farms & farm groups.

VI. DETERMINATION OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

The group discussed the resources required by each component of the draft deliverables and determined further research needed to be done on how other states accomplish similar tasks, and to recommend seeking funding for a full-time position within the Dept of Agriculture, possibly funded in a cooperative manner with the Dept of Education.

VII. RECAP AND NEXT STEPS

Jason Hoagland recapped the highlights of the discussion and the next steps, which included researching other states programs and integration of agricultural education into K-12 curriculum.

Email all members by July 15th of research findings; Then email follow up on shared findings by August 1st; Draft deliverables to be presented to the Council on August 20th. Chairman Hoagland will contact Working Group members should he feel additional follow-up by phone or email.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Jason Hoagland adjourned meeting at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Joseph Dippel
June 25, 2013