

Cabarrus County Food Policy Retreat 2013

Summary Report

Saturday, February 2nd, 2013 9-2pm

Elma C. Lomax Incubator Farm

Facilitator Marilyn Marks

Attendance:

Erin Bayer

Seth Bollenbecker

Trish Cramer

Doug Crawford

Rebecca Dunning

Ann Francesco

Lynn MacDougall-Flemming

Colleen McDaniel

David Goforth

Wade Holland

Brenda Johnson

Shannon Johnson

Chris Jones

Greg Kesterson

Marilyn Marks

Aaron Newton

Leslie Porfeli

Megan Poole

Harrison Reef

Dani Rowland

Rene Shuford

Keila Sneilling

Lisa Walcheldorf

Retreat Outline:

General Introductions: Members and Guests Including Youth Council and Rebecca Dunning

Review: Accomplishments and Current Structure

Goals: Should, Can & Will

Timeline:

9:00-9:30 Intros

9:30-10:30 Accomplishments

10:30-11:30 What **Should** the FPC do in 2013?

11:30-12:30 Lunch and What **Can** the FPC do in 2013?

12:30-1:30 What **Will** the FPC do in 2013?

1:30-2:00 Wrap Up

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Outreach Marketing Education and Economic Development Committee
OMEED Summary:

Stated Goal for 2013: **To Grow Farmers**

1. Review Cabarrus County's current land use by parcel in an attempt to identify opportunities for agricultural production. This would include an attempt to identify "underutilized" acreage currently in Present Use Valuation (PUV) tax designation. There will also be an attempt to identify prime farm acreage not currently in PUV.

Step one in the timely completion of this project would be directly dependent on the capabilities of the Cabarrus County Planning and Development Department and the GIS services the county can offer.

The second step would be to contact property owners in a polite and respectful way to identify individuals interested in getting involved in the growing local food economy here in Cabarrus County. Involved could include food production by the property owner who might be aware of the increased resources available in regards to local food production, i.e. farmers markets expansion, Cruise Meats facility, *Locally Grown* marketing campaign, etc. However involvement might include opportunities for landowners to create relationships with established farmers in the area looking to expand or new farmers including those graduating from the Elma C. Lomax Incubator Farm.

Target Completion Date: February 2014
Project Coordinator: Keila Snellings

2. The FPC will host a series of events intended to bring together restaurateurs, chefs, caterers, local food processors and food producers to develop a dialogue between these groups so that each comes to understand the needs of the other.

Target Completion Date: TBD
Project Coordinator: TBD

3. OMEED will review the current requirements for participation in the use of our *Locally Grown* campaign and make recommendations to the Council and the Board of Commissioners regarding its use.

Target Completion Date: May 2013
Project Coordinator: Lisa Wacheldorf

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4. In support of the CEFS 10% initiative that was previously adopted by Cabarrus County, we will contact those individuals within the county that are responsible for carrying out this initiative to get their feedback on the challenges that they face and what we, as a council, can do to address those issues.

Target Completion Date: July 2013
Project Coordinator: Aaron Newton

5. OMEED will work with CHA to develop a brochure promoting the Food Policy Council, and more importantly locally produced food in Cabarrus County.

Target Completion Date: May 2013
Project Coordinator: Erin Bayer

6. The Food Policy Council will participate in the Concord Christmas Parade.

Target Date for design/idea completion June 2013
Project Coordinator: Ann Francesco and Wade Holland

7. Co-Host Third Annual Piedmont Farmers Market 'Friends of the Market Harvest Gala'

Target Completion Date: October 25th 2013
Project Coordinator: Erin Bayer

8. Maintain and Update the FPC website

Target Completion Date: ONGOING
Project Coordinator: Marcia Brashear

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Health Wellness Hunger and Food Access Committee
HWHFA Summary:

Stated Goal for 2013: **Healthy and Local Food in Schools – More fresh food for all children**

For description: Review Cabarrus County School's current system of food procurement, processing, cooking, serving and waste recovery in an attempt to identify opportunities to provide higher standards of quality, quantity and freshness. This would include an attempt to connect those working to grow the local food economy in Cabarrus County with opportunities to meet the food needs in our school cafeterias.

1. Conduct comprehensive assessment of provided foods in Cabarrus County Schools.

Target Completion Date: April 2013
Project Coordinator: Frank Fiorella

2. Conduct an in-school survey for feedback from students

Target Completion Date: October 2013
Project Coordinator: Brenda Johnson with Youth Council & Frank Fiorella

3. Review of successful models including but not limited to Wake County and Asheville. Invite ASAP to present to the FPC. Review information from Gina Guthrie. Gather information on the National Farm to School campaign. Request regional FPC presentation.

Target Completion Date: June 2013
Project Coordinator: Greg Kesterson

4. Review school gardens including culinary programs, new school construction policies, and the Char-Meck FPC webinar on school gardens. Review the School Garden Guidebook for Cabarrus County Schools.

Target Completion Date: May 2013
Project Coordinator: Penny Perkins with Rene Shuford & Chris Jones

5. Review 10% Campaign and its effects on Cabarrus County Schools food purchasing.

Target Completion Date: July 2013
Project Coordinator: Doug Crawford

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6. The Food Policy Council will participate in the Cabarrus County Fair.

Target Completion Date: Sept 6 -14 2013

Project Coordinator: Dani Rowland with Chris Jones & Jessica Castrodale

The Food Policy Council is excited about its work in 2013 in helping to shape the future of the local food economy in Cabarrus County.