

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY LOCAL FOODS POLICY COUNCIL

MINUTES

September 24, 2014, 5:45 P.M.
BROOKENS ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
JENNIFER PUTMAN ROOM

Present: Zach Kennedy; Tod Satterthwaite; Cathe Capel; Steve Herriott; Brad Uken; Maya Bauer; Mel Farrell ; Becky Roach

Guest: Patti Petrie

1. Call to Order—5:45PM
2. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes—8/27—It's Steve Herriott [not Henning]— approved as corrected
4. Public Participation—None
5. Old Business
 - a. Rantoul Food Hub report

Brad passed out material from USDA on getting more local foods into the School Lunch program. Brad met Vanessa Zajfen who spearheads the Midwestern efforts in that direction. Brad and Zach will be talking with her next week about possibility about getting in on a meeting with the Regional School Superintendent at their monthly meeting of local school district superintendents [Ford and Champaign counties]

Rantoul is bubbling along at a good pace. Chanute Fields LLC now formed so that the land can be efficiently leased and programs formed. Board of Chanute Fields LLC: Jason Bartell; Roman Fox; Steve Ayers; Brad; Todd Rusk. Micro food hub is running now with FFA directing operations. Village will make available of upwards of up to 46 acres. 2015 will see farmers in the field. Looking at options/grants for equipment rentals etc.

Women from Unit 4 food service [who couldn't make it to August meeting] are willing to come to one of our future meetings. Becky will contact to arrange for our October meeting if possible.
 - b. Dining Services/local food report—Chris not present

- c. Discussion of Farmer Survey—members will have comments to Mel by Oct. 1.
- d. Discussion of adding County Board Liaison—Zach contacted James Quisenberry about adding Pattsy to our group. His advice: make her an official CB Liaison without voting rights. Motion passed to add her in this capacity. Welcome Pattsy!

6. New Business—None

7. Legislative Update

Maya brought copies of legislative items of interest to which we might want to respond with our form letter. Assignment: read over and make suggestions for next meeting. National program “Homegrown By Heroes” is similar to the HB3344.

8. Announcements

“Ground to Consumer”. Sept 30th “Meet the Buyers” event at the Farm Bureau. Lots of attendees lined up, including Marianos out of Chicago. Press Conference will take place announcing the new company and leasing opportunities.

November and December meetings moved to 2nd Tuesdays because of holidays: Nov. 12 and Dec. 10 respectively.

Becky recommended our website to Senior Capstone group working on commercial local foods.

Pattsy went to a meeting on Monday about food scraps utilization. Group from Chicago area [IFSC] spoke on their efforts on that. Maybe Rantoul hub could get involved in composting, etc. Scoring program for restaurants that might participate? She spoke about MJ Walker’s work gathering compost-able items.

Question: would one of us like to report to the County Board. Pattsy can arrange for that.

9. Adjourn—6:40PM