

Good Food Central Florida

Date: February 19, 2015
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: City of Winter Park, 401 S. Park Avenue, Winter Park FL (Second Floor; Chapman Room)
Subject: Monthly Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Kendra Musselle, Health Council of East Central Florida (HCECF), Maria Ali Conley, Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB), Dr. Richard Tyson, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), Judy Odom, SHFB, Joseph England, University of South Florida (USF), Julia Elliott, Florida Department of Health (FDOH) in Orange County, Jeannie Economos, Farmworker Association of Florida, Dr. Braden Kay, City of Orlando, Gary Appelsies, YMCA Central Florida, Caitlynn Glatting, IFAS, Alex Stringfellow, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (OCEPD), Sue Tatem, Vinca, Heather Grove, Fleet Farming, Kristen Long, Hermitage Farms, Mark Perez, Community Food Outreach (CFO), Kim Shouldice, IFAS, Yarissa Matos-Soto, FDOH in Lake County and Mary-Stewart Droege, City of Orlando/Get Active Orlando.

Welcome and Introductions:

Ms. Droege, facilitator, welcomed everyone and introductions were made around the table as attendees picked up handouts and agendas. Ms. Droege then turned the meeting over to Ms. Abby Gulden, City of Winter Park Sustainability and Permitting Coordinator, to lead the meeting.

City of Winter Park Presentation

Ms. Gulden provided an overview of food related activities relating to the City of Winter Park and the Winter Park Sustainability Plan. The Action Plan was adopted on February 9, 2015. Through partnerships and collaboration, the City of Winter Park's Sustainability Program provides management, development and monitoring of the City's Sustainability Action Plan addressing waste diversion and recycling, green building, energy efficiency, renewable energy, mobility and urban form, community engagement and green economy, natural systems and resources, local food production and local government operations.

As it concerns food, the Plan has objectives and actions which have identified as context sensitive approaches to help facilitate a healthy, local and sustainable food system in the City of Winter Park. Two main objectives are to significantly increase the consumption of regionally grown, local food and reduce consumption of carbon intensive foods. Some short-term goals include edible landscaping, food policy council participation, and community gardening with a long term goal of establishing urban farming. A robust discussion among attendees followed Ms. Gulden's presentation and progressed into a discussion of fleet farming.

Production: Fleet Farming

Ms. Heather Grove initiated a broad based presentation on Fleet Farming. Information was also pulled up from the web to support the discussion. As Ms. Grove discussed, the Fleet Farming application, conceptualized by Mr. John Rife, was started in 2014. *Ideas for Us*, a nonprofit organization situated in Winter Park, operates and oversees the Fleet Farming program, along with East End Market and other community partners. Supported by volunteers and bike power for transportation, Fleet Farming revenue is earmarked to support other community building related activities and to expand the Fleet Farming program to other local communities. Ms. Grove shared that they had 10 farmlettes or sites and sell to local distributors and chefs. (A film describing their activity is also available, please go to: <http://fleetfarming.com/>)

The meeting attendees expressed their enthusiasm and support for this activity and an animated discussion followed on how this activity could be expanded. Ms. Heather Grove also detailed some of the work involved in establishing a farmlette and future directions.

Food Waste

Both Mr. Alex Stringfellow and Dr. Braden Kay discussed their ongoing compost related activities. Mr. Stringfellow, co-owner of *Compost Orlando*, discussed his new business. Their operations focus on picking-up food-only refuse or scraps from a variety of sources including homes and restaurants on a bi/weekly basis. The pickup is then processed into dirt and given away to community farms where it can use it to grow crops such as herbs and produce, thereby establishing a sustainable loop or farm to table to farm model. A link to *Compost Orlando* is available at <http://www.compostorlando.org/>

Dr. Kay, City Sustainability Manager, then discussed a recent City of Orlando promotional composting campaign, entitled "*Get Dirty This Valentines' Day*". A funny video, it promotes the City's new residential composting program. Dr. Kay detailed that approximately one-fourth of the municipal solid waste stream is food and yard waste. Well-received with hundreds of residents signing up for the new program, the City of Orlando is offering free home composters and educational workshops to residents. A discussion followed about the various regulations involved in composting. The GFCF Food Waste Subcommittee will meet to further focus on rules and their implications in carrying out composting. Mr. Dave Krepcho's article entitled *Scrappy Scraps* was also shared and can be secured at: http://www.ssireview.org/articles/entry/scrappy_solutions

Community Food Assessment

Mr. Joseph England also brought the group up-to-date on community food assessment activities. The committee is currently in the preparatory phase and is trying to secure resources to support research. MS Droege discussed the involvement of UCF and the status of the research work addressing the food policy council membership structure.

Attendees Activities

As part of the meeting, attendees also shared information concerning their respective agency activities. Dr. Tyson, IFAS, briefly touched on the IFAS's new Cottage Food program. Healthy Eating Director, Gary Appelsies, YMCA, discussed the YMCA's focus on healthy food and recent promotional/educational efforts which addresses the Central Florida community. Ms. Jeannie Economos, Farmworker Association of Florida, discussed the upcoming *Agroecology Ecuentro* event. Agroecology is a movement to support the reclaiming of traditional and ancestral knowledge which serves the foundation for social and ecological transformation. Ms. Maria Ali Conley, Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB), discussed a number of items including an upcoming TEDX event, entitled "*Changing the Way We Eat*". It was scheduled for March 7, 2015. Ms. Kendra Musselle also discussed her recent efforts as it concerned genetically modified organisms, better consumer notification/labeling/education and her pending trip to Tallahassee to address these issues.

Ms. Judy Odom also reminded everyone about the annual UCF Public Administration Research Conference on Food Security to be held on March 27, 8:30AM – 4:15PM at the Fairwinds Alumni Center. Ms. Odom shared that Mr. Dave Krepcho and Dr. Dorothy Norris-Tirrell, Ph.D., Associate Professor, UCF were the principal organizers of this important event. State and national speakers, including the Florida Dept. of Agriculture, USDA and Feeding America, will be present as well as local advocates. Mr. Joe England indicated that he would also be presenting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.