

Good Food Central Florida Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 16, 2015

Date: April 16, 2015

Time: 2:30 pm to 4:00pm

Place: Hebni Nutrition

Attendees: Kendra Musselle, HCECF; Maria Ali Conley, SHFB; Richard Tyson, Extension Service; Joseph England, USF; Sarah Stack, WPHF; Kristin Long, Heritage Farms; Gary Appelsies, YMCA; Dave Krepcho, Second Harvest Food Bank, Sue Tatum, Vinca; Caitlyn Glatting, UF/IFAS; Jane Gregory, OCEPD; Heather Grove, EEM, Mark Perez, CFOC, Esther Haugbrooks, DOH, April Aviles, PKZ; Rocco Monaco, Green nature Mktg.; Lisa Portelli, WPHF, Kimberly Shouldice, UF/IFAS, Yarrisa Matos Soto, FDOH-lake; Jeannie Economos, Farmworker Assoc.; Glen Providence, Hebni Nutrition and Mary-Stewart Droege, City of Orlando.

Ms. Mary-Stewart Droege, facilitator, welcomed everyone, asked for attendees to introduce themselves and to make announcements. Dr. Tyson provided a handout on an upcoming IFAS event on May 2nd on how to grow market vegetables. The session will be held at the extension office. A flyer was also provided to attendees. Ms. Economos also provided information on the *Agricultural Justice, Age of Organics, and Alligators Conference* to be held at FAMU College of Law on April 17-18, 2015. Flyers were also distributed. Another effort announced by Ms. Economos was the Campesinos' Gardens and the request to vote for the Gardens through April 27th. Information was also provided to attendees.

The discussion then turned to the meeting hosts, Mr. Glenn Providence and Ms. Roneice Weaver. Mr. Providence welcomed everyone and introduced Ms. Weaver. One of the founders of Hebni Nutrition, Ms. Weaver discussed Hebni Nutrition's history and Fresh Stop bus activities (<http://soulfoodpyramid.org/>) Fresh Stop is a mobile farmer's market serving food desert communities in Central Florida. An animated discussion followed with a focus on food related activities, use of EBT and new Fresh Stop partners, such as the Orlando Housing Authority (<https://www.facebook.com/HebniNutrition>). One of the most popular activities at the Orange County Public School stops are the kale, avocado, and pineapple smoothies made for children. Also, Mr. Dave Krepcho, additionally shared that Second Harvest Food Bank is providing free food through the mobile food market bus for distribution at certain sites.

The discussion then turned to Mr. Krepcho's senior food insecurity activity. Mr. Krepcho reviewed the key food related issues for seniors such as food access, affordability, nutrition, as well as the identification of at-risk seniors, and the special needs of the 50-59 age group versus those individuals older than 60 years. Mr. Krepcho also discussed possible innovative approaches to address food insecurity issues through using government employees, including mailmen and waste management personnel, to identify those homes with unusual low levels of daily maintenance activities, such as no evidence of trash or mail pick-up. This would allow case workers to do follow up and verify the well-being of the older resident. The committee will ultimately create a multi-pronged plan for Orange County to build a case where they can secure

funding. Some discussion followed Mr.Krepcho's comprehensive review. *(Background: With the support of a \$20,300 grant from the Winter Park Health Foundation (WPHF), Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida has engaged the consulting firm Horvath and Associates to lead a community-wide effort gathering leaders to develop a strategic plan to help Central Florida address the growing hunger needs within the senior population. Dr. James Wright, the Provost's Distinguished Research Professor in the University of Central Florida's Department of Sociology, carried out research which is being used by this group.)*

Ms. Heather Grove then spoke about the USDA's Local Food Promotion Program and her attendance at the grant orientation session in Gainesville. Ms. Grove indicated her interest in applying for approximately \$50,000 through a local non-profit, *IDEAS for Us*, (<http://www.ideasforus.org/>) to secure LFPP implementation funding to build the fleet farming program. Also, as part of this discussion, Hebni nutrition also indicated their interest in applying for the LMPP planning grant to help expand the mobile food market program. Ms. Grove also noted that she would make her orientation session materials available to council members.

The latter part of the meeting focused on the Food Audit and Community Food Assessment. Materials were handed out. Mr. Joseph England, lead researcher, reviewed the purpose of the audit, target areas and the different elements involved. Mr. England asked attendees to review the audit and provide comment. Attendees were then asked to provide expert interview or subject area specialists information to Mr. England at: joseph68@mail.usf.edu. Additional information about the Audit and Community Food Assessment is to be posted on the Good Food website at: www.goodfoodcfl.org under Community Food Assessment & Audit.

Toward the latter part of the meeting certain groups provided updates on activities. The Education and Outreach Committee addressed a *Farm to School* grant. They also shared that they are currently working with OCPS as it concerns new programming. The Processing and Distribution Committee indicated that they are still engaged in research as is the Waste Committee. At the end of the meeting, the facilitator handed a one page questionnaire to assess interest in the audit, assessment and involvement in various subcommittees.

The meeting closed at 4pm.