

Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes, Thursday, April 15, 2010

Miner's Creek Room, Medical Office Building, Frisco

Present: Co-Chairs, Joanna Rybak & Jen Santry, **Members:** Kathryn Grohusky, Don Parsons and Holle Vliet

Updates:

- Holle Vliet is the Greenhouse Farmer hired to grow food for the food banks and lead the volunteers at the Community & Senior Center. Welcome Holle!
- Summit County's 2010 "Food & Garden" calendar is out. Workshops & classes are sponsored by High Country Conservation Center (HC3), Summit Prevention Alliance (SPA), Silvana's Community Garden & Alpine Earth Center.
- HC3 partnered with Grant Family Farms to host a sustainable food movies series
- Silvana's Community Garden will be building 5 new experimental beds at the end of April to scientifically test different season extenders (coverings) on the same seeds/starts in each bed over the next 5 years. Compost bins will be built and gardeners will start composting on-site.
- The Soda Creek HOA in Summit Cove started a vegetable garden for its residents.
- Dillon Valley Elementary will have its first community meeting on June 9, 5:30-6:30 at DVE. (The original date was May 17 but this was rescheduled since this FPC meeting.)
- The 3 greenhouses at the Community & Senior Center are scheduled to start being built at the end of the month. The target audience for plots is seniors and low-income.
- Rob Murphy and Intern Bethany from the FIRC developed the "Summit County Food Help" fact sheet listing all the information on the food banks in English & Spanish. The group reviewed these and made some minor suggestions that Joanna will share with Rob. Overall, looks great!

Proposal for Food Recovery Campaign – Discuss a Public Showing of Movie "Dive" and Public Discussion about Good Samaritan Act & Food Recovery Program – "Feed Our Community Not Our Landfill"

- Discussed having the FPC host a showing of the movie "Dive" which is a documentary that shows how much food is wasted by dumpster diving for food. Great idea! We didn't set a date for this yet. FPC members could lead a discussion after the movie showing. Need to decide on the forum/logistics. HC3 currently partners with CMC to use the beautiful new theater at the Breckenridge campus. Could ask for small suggested donation.

- Food Recovery Task Force Update – plan to present to the restaurant association on the benefits of donating foods and the federal law protection- Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act which protects people and organizations that want to donate food. Liability shouldn't be a concern to restaurant owners. They need to be educated.
- Suggested to contact Dave November, Environmental Manager, at Breckenridge Resort
- Holle Vliet said that she works at Copper and much food is wasted. Holle thinks there is a law that doesn't allow employers to donate food due to food safety issues. Need to get more information about this. This contradicts the federal Bill Emerson Food Donation Act.
- Kathryn Grohusky said that if any federal dollars going towards nutrition programs then food has to be discarded.
- One concern is that the temperature zone that food needs to be stored isn't always easy to do.
- One benefit of donating for restaurants is that it could be a tax write-off.
- Copper and Vail Resorts are composting.
- The Community & Senior Center does have a gleaning program. They get food donated from Safeway and pastries from Starbucks.

Backyard Chickens (See all attached documents that were distributed.)

- Discussion was started because there are families in Summit County that would like to raise chickens but cannot due to zoning regulations such as certain areas in unincorporated Summit County. See attached code.
- There are many benefits of raising backyard chickens and numerous cities that have codes that allow backyard chickens. See attached the "Benefits of Raising Backyard Chickens" and the "US Cities that Chickens" page.
- Frisco doesn't allow any fowl and Breckenridge doesn't allow fowl on the residential or urbanized areas in town. See attached code.
- It was suggested to invite a planner from Summit County Government and other towns to the next meeting to help us understand what zoning codes and master plans mean.

Food Stamp Challenge

- Rob Murphy (FIRC) couldn't make this meeting but did want us to discuss his "Food Stamp Challenge" idea: The idea is to do a "food stamp challenge" where for one month, two members of FPC would only have a designated amount of money, based on a calculation of food stamps that would be available to an unemployed single person, to spend on food for the month. One of the two

members would only use their food stamps at the grocery store and not take advantage of any food services in the community. The second person would be allowed to go to food banks, community dinners, and order from Food Share America. Hopefully we would be able to convince the paper to let us write a guest column or two about the experience. This way we could draw attention to the issues faced by hungry people in our community, while also highlighting the importance of our local community food resources and the difference they make. My plan is that I would be one of the people if someone else would volunteer too, and do it around June or July. Do you think you could ask the group about this idea and see what they think? Thanks! Rob

- This idea was discussed and we all thought it was a great idea. Jannine volunteered herself to do The Food Stamp Challenge too. We came up with other ideas that Jannine will discuss with Rob: Jannine “adopts” a family interested in this program and healthy meals. We were thinking a family of 4 or 5 would represent the ideal situation. Then Jannine meets with the family to do meal planning and shops with them for a month and to show how they did on the Food Stamps. The idea is to prove or dispel the idea that you can or cannot eat healthy on food stamps. It was suggested to ask Brad from SCTV-10 to film all parts of the process. Then at the end, a tool/guide developed to help parents save \$ and use food stamp \$ wisely and in a healthful manner.

NEXT FOOD POLICY COUNCIL MEETING is Thurs, May 20, 2-3:30, Miner’s Creek Room, Medical Office Building