

Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes from January 13, 2010:

Present: Jen Santry, High Country Conservation Center, Joanna Rybak, Summit Prevention Alliance, Jude Mitchell, Dillon Community Church, Rob Murphy, FIRC, Don Parsons, Dillon Town Council and Deb Price, Youth & Family Services

Discussion:

- Land designated in Colorado for community gardens – explore private donation of land in exchange for tax credit. Approach owners of private properties and determine ways that growing food on their land would benefit them – tax benefits like conservation easements? Trade or lease land; County provide break on property tax for land donations; determine potential benefits for both parties...
- Summit County Open Space Advisory Council – currently review land for open space and affordable housing. Why not review land for agriculture, community gardens, growing food...? Land not appropriate for open space may be OK for growing gardens.
- Toronto Food Policy Council – great model for FPC, they've been around since 1991
- Food Waste Recovery projects - Currently there is a transfer of liability from supermarkets to food banks with food bank recipients signing a waiver. Local food banks tell recipients "if food looks bad don't eat it." Food Bank of the Rockies was able to get around liability issues and get donations from supermarkets by having food banks that receive donations sign waivers. Does that make local food banks receiving food from recovery projects liable if something is wrong with the food?
- FPC to Focus on Liability Issues for Food Banks and Schools – There are Farm to School programs and greenhouses providing schools with local food all over the country. Any liability concerns that the Summit School District might have can be addressed. FPC may also address how to use, serve, and distribute local food (County-wide) without liability issues.
- Joanna will talk to Seattle's Reduce Hunger and Food Waste project about liabilities
- FPC should have a local attorney on council – we need someone with corporate and agricultural knowledge. Jen Santry to talk to Roxanne on HC3 board for suggestions; Deb to talk to Steve...
- Don Parsons suggests that another "first" project of the FPC should be to create a comprehensive list of food resources that currently exist in Summit beyond those listed in the Food Assistant Document that Deb created. The list should include community dinners, community gardens, organizations involved in food related efforts... determine what is going on with food all over the County. Include info from local groups including CMC, Keystone Science School, Eagle Scouts, 4-H, health clubs, high school, old Mountain Community Fair... all groups involved in agriculture or food related programs/projects. How can we get Breckenridge more involved?
- Agricultural Zoning – question came up if something is zoned "agricultural" what does this mean? Does it include pig farms too? What do we need to do to get land zoned to grow food and what is it called? Do we need a planner on the FPC?
- Basic Food Assistance Document (Deb) – This is a great document that Deb created to provide information on the status of the food banks and stamps program in Summit County. How can FPC help alleviate the stress and strain of hunger in our County? The

document is helpful for grants and funding for food banks and food assistance programs or organizations that need funding the most. The document provides essential data that the FPC and other groups can use to get funding to food banks and other projects. FPC can also use the document to spread awareness and to jump start other FPC programs/projects. Data collection and document creation will continue to be part of Deb's job - the FPC can provide essential input for the document.

- FPC Role as "Champion Group" of Food Assistance Doc -
 - Provide input on strategies, priorities, legal issues...
 - As a "champion group" the FPC would be required to provide updates at a quarterly review with the Summit CARE Council.
 - FPC will also provide input into what is missing in the Food Assistance Doc - what's going on in Breckenridge.
 - This is a great opportunity for the FPC to have a voice into the CARE Council.
 - FPC will meet with CARE Council on Monday, March 4 at 4pm to at least let CARE Council know who we are and whether or not we'll be "champion group" of Basic Food Assistance Document.
 - Role to be discussed at next meeting (Thursday, February 11)
 - One reason for FPC to accept this responsibility is that it provides a timeline for follow up and discussion as well as having to report to someone (CARE Council) - FPC has potential to be a permanent and serious group with these responsibilities. Deadlines = get things done.
- What Next - FPC to make a decision on Food Assistance Doc; develop a mission and plan; and People - Mike Hammes at Vail Resorts, Kevin Clark from Colorado Mountain College's culinary program, Doug Pierce at Arapahoe Café, Roxanne Peyser (HC3 Board and legal issues), Breckenridge - Saint John's Group, Kathie at 4-H, someone in schools or at District's Sustainable Work Group or Julie McClusky or Jill Brickson (teachers); County or Town Planners, Karn Steigelmier or Thomas Davidson (El Pomar Foundation), Sherrie at Alpine Earth Center (formally Alpine Gardens)...