



CK Food Policy Council

Minutes

April 25th, 2024- 9:30-11:30am

Attendance: Allison Heavens, Alexandra Colby, Carmen McGregor, Dana Boyd, Derwyn Armstrong, Erica Bennett, Jacques Tetrault, Jennelle Arnew, Jennifer Crowell, Jess Snobelen, Jim Brackett, Kim Howland, Kim Sonneveld, Leah Azevedo Cabral, Magdiel Hoste, Mike Buis, Nathen Dube, Olena Manoilo, Renee Geniole, Rosemarie Montgomery, Sharmini Balakrishnan, Susan Fulmer, Taylor Merritt

Regrets: Sherri Gray, Nicole Shaw, Karen Green

1. Land Acknowledgement presented by Sharmini. Members to volunteer to provide a land acknowledgement. Will be a way to reflect on how this connects to our work at the food policy council.
2. Introduction of one new council member Tasha Rugless. Guest speakers Huda Oda (Manager) & Cagla Erginer (Project Manager) from Waste Management, Public Works and Public Health Staff Support for Municipal Connections, Jennelle Arnew (Public Health Nutritionist) Derwyn
3. Approval of Minutes: Approved by ~~Derwin~~ and Mike.
4. Organic Waste Presentation by Huda and Carla. Presented current waste management programs as well as a closer look at the Organic Waste Diversion Program. 50% of Chatham-Kent's organic waste has been diverted by 2025, as mandated by the provincial government, including providing a provision for composting at home, promotion and education on home composters and collecting and accepting material in a convenient manner. Currently a feasibility study is being done to develop a curb side green bin program in 2024, investigate a backyard composter program in 2024-2025 and explore a rural diversion program in 2025.
5. Education: Food Systems and Food Insecurity Presentation by Sharmini. Food security is one of the ultimate goals in a food system. 1 in 5 households in Chatham-Kent are food insecure and this is increasing since the COVID-19 pandemic. In the current state having a job isn't enough to ensure food security and social assistance programs are not enough to reduce food insecurity. Food insecurity isn't a food issue, it's an income issue. What can the council do? First, educate ourselves on food insecurity. Second, talk with family and friends about root causes of food insecurity in our community. Third, advocate for income solutions, write a letter to the province in support of Senate Bill C-233 to develop a national framework for a guaranteed livable basic income. Mike created a motion to have Sharmini draft a letter of support. Second, ~~Derwin~~
Derwyn

6. Update on FPC Strategic Planning Meeting, by Sharmini. Public Health Ontario will now support CKPH Sharmini and CKPH Planning & Evaluation Specialist Melissa Thomas to facilitate the strategic planning session May 23rd (830-1130AM). 2 pre-planning meetings to be attended by Carmen, Derwyn, Sharmini, Melissa Thomas, Karen Green, Nathen Dube. May meeting for strategic planning session – In person ONLY, location TBD. RSVP Survey will be sent to ensure attendance for planning, please complete.
7. Update on Grown in CK Brand. Currently buy local, buy fresh map. The visit CK site contains food related activities to do in CK by season. However, the information is buried in the website and is difficult to find. The Grown in CK branding seems to have been replaced by buy local, buy fresh for several reasons by the producers. Mike recommended providing producers access to signage for their store fronts would be helpful. Allison recommended a centralized social media page, and Carmen added this could be in connection to Visit CK site.
8. United Way SPA Table – Food for Thought, by Sharmini. Allison asked that the information be sent to her.
9. Round Table Update- Mike, there is a new YouTube video coming out on reduce, reuse and ruminate, by the Canadian Cattleman.
10. Wrap Up-

Next Meeting Date: May 23rd, 2024, 8:30 to 11:30, Civic Center room 212 subject to change depending on availability