



Food Environment Assessment & Food Policy Council Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2021, 1-2 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Sheena Butler
Travis Greer
Hannah Darr

ATTENDEES PRESENT: Jared McGuirt
Hannah Prentice-Dunn
Candace Scott
Devon Newton

INTRODUCTION:

Mr. Greer welcomed the committee members and new attendees. The meeting started at 1:05 pm with introductions and an ice breaker about favorite Halloween and Fall movies.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

A. Food Environment Subcommittee Updates and Discussion

Mr. Greer reviewed the status of the partners assisting with the food environment assessment. He noted that Methodist University were a great help with many of our entries, and he will be visiting the students next week to deliver gift cards to those who helped out. Mr. Greer has been communicating with Crystal Glover about the Fayetteville-Cumberland Youth Council. Nine council members are going to be helping with the food environment assessment over the next few weeks.

- Methodist University
- Fort Bragg Dept. of Public Health
- Fayetteville Urban Ministry
- Teens Do Care Inc.
- Cooperative Extension (pending)

- Manna Church (pending)
- Fayetteville Tech Nursing Students (pending)
- Fayetteville-Cumberland Youth Council (9 new recruits)

Mr. Greer noted that the project team has decided to leave the Food Environment Assessment open through November to help capture data from ~20 more sites that we would like to survey.

Mr. Greer discussed that food pantries form an important part of the food environment, so we have decided to add them to the Food Environment Assessment. He is compiling a list of local food pantries and hoping to conduct healthy food pantry assessments with them throughout the month of November with resources provided by the NCSU extensions. Ms. Scott brought up adding CSA (produce box pick-ups) to the Food Environment Assessment. Ms. Butler will reach out to Lisa Childers from NCSU Cooperative Extension for more information about this resource.

Mr. Greer is working on scanning and evaluating local comprehensive and sustainability plans. He has started scanning through County-level plans to compile information related to the project. Dr. McGuirt brought up Pitt County as an example of a similar county to Cumberland that has made an impact through improving healthy options at Corner Stores.

The group reviewed the updated Food Environment Assessment map. The group discussed the theme of increasing awareness about the options that are available throughout the county because there does seem to be places that offer healthy options. The group also discussed modifications to the map to make it more user-friendly.

B. FPC Subcommittee Updates and Discussions

Ms. Butler reviewed that the Food Policy Council application posted on the Cumberland Co. Department of Public Health website.

- To view click [here](#): **(Please look for the apply link at the top of the page and vacancy descriptions under *Joint Fort Bragg & Cumberland Co. Food Policy Council*)**

Ms. Butler gave an update from the 1st Food Policy Council Interest meeting on Sept. 30th. Six candidate names were submitted to Cumberland Co. Commissioners and nominated on Oct. 18th. These candidates are set for appointment on Nov. 1st. The 2nd Food Policy Council Interest meeting is scheduled for Oct. 28th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Ms. Butler let the group know that 5 candidates are slated to present.

Ms. Prentice-Dunn asked a question about the programmatic versus policy council of the Food Policy Council. Ms. Butler discussed using the Food Environment Assessment to

guide where the attention should be directed. Ms. Butler also brought up that we would like to loop our Food Policy Council in with the Community Food Strategies webinars and resources.

Ms. Butler discussed the next steps for the Food Policy Council, including hosting the first council meeting, continuing to recruit new members to fill open positions, and having Hannah Darr draft a Food Policy Council logo.

C. Closing

Mr. Greer provided updates about the HCCC grant. He and Ms. Butler had a call with Amy Clark from the HCCC grant last week for updates. HCCC was very pleased by our work thus far.

Mr. Greer is working on a blog with the Community Food Strategies about the work of Food Policy Councils during COVID. The blog is slated to be posted in early December.

Mr. Greer brought up that he would appreciate the contact information for 2nd Harvest Food Bank if anyone in the group has connections.

The group briefly discussed possible focus areas for the Food Policy Council. Mr. Greer brought up GAP (good agricultural practices), which gives requirements for farmers for providing fruits and vegetables to schools, hospitals, etc. Ms. Scott brought up childcare as a possible area of focus because kids in full-time childcare receive more than half of their meals from childcare. Ms. Butler brought up nutrition education in schools and community gardens as another possible area of focus.

Ms. Butler announced that the next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 2nd 1-2pm.** The meeting closed at 1:54 pm.

Cumberland County & Fort Bragg Residents

The Cumberland County Department of Public Health needs **YOUR** help in letting us know what foods or beverages you see in the grocery store.

All you have to do is scan the QR Code below and answer a few questions while you shop.

A \$25 gift card will be given to the first 100 participants.

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