



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

ROOM 32 ▪ CITY HALL ▪ BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05401
(802) 865-7144 ▪ (802) 865-7142 (TTY) ▪ (802) 865-7024 (FAX)

Burlington Food Council Meeting August 1, 2005

Present: Bonnie Acker, Edmunds PTO; Linda Berlin, Health and Food Sciences-UVM; Jen Larsen, citizen; Mercedes Lyson, BSD Food Service VISTA; Michael Moser, UVM CRS; Kelly Chamberlan, BSD VISTA; Andrew, FC Guest; Kim Swartz, VT Dept of Health; Betsy Rosenbluth, Emily Hilliard, Legacy Project.

I. Updates

- Kim mentioned the “Everything Fit and Healthy Expo” which will take place on Oct. 22 at the Fairgrounds. The Expo is sponsored by the Champlain Initiative, United Way, UVM, and the Department of Health and will have information, presentations and exhibits on healthy lunches, nutritious food on limited budgets, mental health, etc.
- Re-cap of the MacMillan Matrix. Betsy said it would be helpful to CLARIFY actions and ASSIGN lead implementers.

II. Presented draft of year-long work plan for implementation of School Food Action Plan and gave feedback

- Formatting suggestions were given:
 - Make “actions” more readable
 - Structure “actions” based on voting priority
 - Structure “actions” by bullet
 - Condense first two columns into bullets
 - Keep all of the current information

III. Introductions

- Met new VISTAs: Emily Hilliard, Legacy VISTA; Mercedes Lyson, BSD Food Service VISTA; Kelly Chamberlan, BSD VISTA
- Michael Moser will be leaving and replaced by Rachel Cranwell

IV. Finished MacMillan Matrix

- The following actions from *Objective #4: Educating the Community*, were placed within the matrix as a “good fit,” “attractive,” the FC is in a strong position to implement them, and few orgs cover them:
 - **ACTION 4-b:** Burlington School Food Service Website, (BSD)
 - **ACTION 4-d:** Empower the BFC, (BFC, BSD)
 - **ACTION 4-f:** Establish a consistent message for events and presentations

- **ACTION 4-e: recruit and support parents and volunteers** was classified as a difficult action, the FC is in a weak position to implement it and other orgs cover it.
- In *Objective #5: Empower students for lifelong learning*, the following two actions were combined and classified as a good fit with the FC, attractive, the FC is in a good position to implement and few orgs cover:
 - **ACTION 5-a and 5-c: Acknowledge student voices in food selection and offer culturally-appropriate and familiar foods**
 - It was suggested that students be able to voice their opinions on the food offerings via the School Food Website.
 - A brief discussion followed concerning the term “comfort-foods,” which can often be unhealthy. The term “familiar” was chosen instead.
- **ACTION 5-b: Expand taste tests** was classified as a strong fit, attractive, the FC is in a good position to implement and few orgs cover it.
- **ACTION 5-d: Pilot new menu options** was classified as a strong fit with the FC, difficult, and few orgs cover it.
- The following actions in *Objective #3: Provide positive meal experience* were combined and classified as a poor fit with the FC, difficult to implement, and few orgs cover it.
 - **ACTION 3-a.i, 3-a.ii, & 3-b: Change physical environment in the cafeteria**
 - It was decided that this does not necessarily fit within the FC mission and would be more suited for PTOs and the BSD to address.
- A new action was added under *Objective #3* and seen as a top priority:
 - **ACTION 3-e: To encourage parents to share meals with their children at the school cafeteria to model, encourage nutrition, read to children, create community, be a positive presence, etc.**
- The following actions were seen as not a high priority to the Food Council:
 - **ACTION 3-c: Reduce lunch lines**
 - **ACTION 3-d: Recess timing improvements**
- **ACTION 7-a** under *Objective #7: Strengthen out-of-school learning opportunities* was classified by the group as a “good fit”, the FC is in a weak position to implement it and few orgs cover it.
- The following actions were combined to one action:
 - **ACTION 7-b: After school food education**
 - **ACTION 7-c: Guidelines for out-of-school meals**
 - **ACTION 7-d.i: Extent Healthy Snacks curriculum**
 - **ACTION 7-d.ii: Identify potential funding**

V. One Year Work Plan

- A brief discussion followed discussing the implementation of the one year work plan and how to involve the stakeholders like the BSD with the recommendations made by the FC in the plan.
 - For September’s meeting, Legacy staff will send the work plan via e-mail for feedback and comments.
 - Since we’ve assigned key actions to other groups, how do we communicate that? In the form of a letter or formal request?
 - Need to send key recommendations

- Need a committee on Burlington School Board to work to implement these recommendations
- School districts are required to adopt a “Wellness Policy” by next September; can these recommendations be imbedded in that?
- Betsy Lilley to clarify what School Board will do on Curriculum and Policy.
- Need to work with School Board to determine process.
 - Go to them with our year-long work plan and identify five actions they can help to implement.
 - ◆ Show that there are community members who want to keep working with them on it.
 - ◆ Would be helpful to get School Board history to see if/how School Board has adopted suggestions in the past.
 - ◆ Show benefits if they agree, not penalties if they don't.
 - ◆ Bonnie suggested inviting the Burlington School Board to School Food taste tests
- We are on the agenda of the School Board's Curriculum and Policy Committee meeting in September.
 - ◆ Important to get parents and taxpayers to speak and Legacy staff will do the formal presentation.

Next meeting September 12, 3:00-5:00 Fletcher Free Library, Pickering Room

*****Burlington Food Council on the web:***

<http://www.cedo.ci.burlington.vt.us/legacy/foodcouncil.html>