



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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Burlington Food Council

5/20/08 9:00-10:30am

Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library

Present: Kim Norris, Bonnie Acker, Amy Chambers, Kathy Chasan, Jenn McGowan, Matt Tucker, Pat Matton, Abbie Nelson, Doug Davis, Annie R., Rachel Schattman, Steph Clark (staff)

Announcements and Updates

- City Market's Food for All Program – if you get EBT or WIC you are now eligible to be member (no fee) with scanable card for 10% discount
- How can we get fresh and local product to the North Beach snack bar this summer? (Question from Bonnie, Steph will send a note to Parks and Rec to start this conversation – summer 2009 as pilot?)
- Healthy City updates and news!
 - Farm to Family coupons (\$30 in \$3 increments) to be used only at farmers' markets for families on WIC
 - Will be doing multiple flyerings around the Old North End re: food access and security
 - Old North End Farmers' Market (at H.O. Wheeler “triangle”) opens 6/12, will have grand opening celebration 6/26, Healthy City and partners to staff info/resource table each week
 - 7 returning teens, 18 new teens, had 60-70 applications for 25 spots! This is H. City's 6th year in this model, and 7th overall year

Summer Food Programs

- Variety of sites across the city, partnership with Parks and Rec (at their Champ Camps)
- State program: school food service provides lunch to sites, up to 1000 meals/day, all made all Edmunds and then shipped everywhere – including summer school sites at H.O. Wheeler and BHS
- Can BSFP help get Healthy City foods into summer food program?
 - Wheeler salad bar is largely local, already has good connections for food education/awareness for kids there
 - Adding local product without food education won't add any benefit – need to find a way to have food ed and then intro product!
 - Healthy City teens and off-site staff have new element - “Leadership Fridays”, could do prep/gleaning and food ed/taste tests at a few sites on Thursdays and then intro new product at those sites on Fridays
 - Would have to be finger-food type of product, need to find out what volume Healthy City can produce
 - **Plan: Abbie will help arrange a meeting with Jenn, Doug and Pat, Dan Cahill, Caroline/City Market to discuss logistics**

- This year would be a small pilot program at 3-4 summer food sites, next year could be city-wide of successful and able to gather a staff for food ed/taste test trainings
- NOFA is looking at a grant (up to \$10,000) for summer 2009 (due end of this month) that could address and help fund this type of collaborative project – Abbie and Jenn will talk

Food Security – local and state actions as of late

- Doug presented at a conference in NH last week, was given time to highlight Farm to School work and featured the awesome work of Healthy City
- Doug and staff did taste tests in BHS, Hunt, and Champlain the first week in May with American Flatbread (George Schank)
 - BSD is trying to work with Flatbread as new pizza provider (September 2009), does involve a few issues, would enable the 120+VT schools in their food-buying co-op to use Flatbread in their schools too
 - Issues: need to be closely watched when cooking, can't be batch cooked, must be sliced at time of cooking – this equals more time for the food service staff during lunch, might not be feasible in some schools without the proper kitchen setup
 - Doug is (cautiously?) optimistic and hopeful, this would be a great partnership for those schools that are able to make it work – and the product is much better at essentially the same price point of current pizzas
- VT legislature passed a “breakfast for all” law, is the 4th state to do this – it means that all students who previously qualified for reduced-price breakfast will now get free breakfast
 - For Burlington: we already do free breakfast, and this means that the reimbursement for the reduced-price breakfasts (totaling about \$8000) will now go back to BSD
 - Doug has been working with BSD and it looks like they will be able to use this money to offset the cost of reduced-price lunch and offer free lunch for those students!
 - This is with VT Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, will highlight with media release when it is official and final

Miscellany and More!

- Amy is leaving Shelburne Farms after the summer to change her commute from an hour drive to a three minute walk – *and she will be dearly missed!*
- Strawberry Day will be mid-July, all day event to pick for schools, Doug will send us info when he has it!
- Healthy City needs 15 more CSA members – Jenn will send this info to Jean at NOFA to send out
- 3 Tomatoes is partnering with FEED for benefits at their 4 restaurants – Burlington event is October 29, 2008
- WVMT has committed to doing a back-to-school feature (on Charlie and Ernie show) on food
- BSD and BSFP will co-prepare a packet on food systems/access to go out in August, will also involve the Free Press and North Ave News for broad awareness beyond the school community
- Iron Chef 2009! March 28, 2009 is the date for the 2nd Annual Jr. Iron Chef. “Stuck in VT” on it was shown at recent BSD school board meeting.
 - Need to finalize numbers, it looks like we made around \$23,000 (no idea what costs were – Kim is working on this?)
 - Please send any info/photos you'd like on the website to Steph A.S.A.P.!

Next Meeting

- **No June meeting!**
- Next meeting is **July 29th, 9-10:30am, location TBD**