

Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN)

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 21, 2016

1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: Dr. J. K. Edwards Board Room, 3rd Floor
Peterborough Public Health, Jackson Square, 185 King Street**

Attendees: Sharon Cadman, Joëlle Favreau, Lori Sainte, Peter Hughes, Jill Bishop, Marie Bongard, Caitlin Smith, Kasandra Bateman, Chris Kawalec, Linda Midford, Carolyn Doris, Margaret Madden, Becky Lyon, Dr. Rosana Salvaterra (Chair), Alida Tanna (Recorder), Luisa Magalhaes.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Approved with the addition of item 5.1, Food For Kids Update.

3.0 Approval of Minutes – May 19, 2016

Approved as circulated.

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

5.0 New Business

5.1 Food For Kids Update

Luisa Magalhaes, Public Health Nutritionist/Health Promoter with Peterborough Public Health joined the meeting for this item. Luisa provided details about the universal [student nutrition program](#) that began in 2 downtown schools and is now thriving in 48 out of 51 Peterborough area schools.

Healthy food options are available to all students, prepared and served by over 1100 volunteers. The program is partially funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (15%), the remaining amount is raised through fundraising and sponsorships.

Luisa also discussed the School Food Box program, which began as an extension of the YWCA Just Food Box program. The program, which started in 2 schools and is now up to 16, sends between 40 – 80 pounds of local Ontario produce to participating schools, with the food incorporated into morning meals and snacks. Schools that did not have a budget for this in the past are now able to offer more fruits and vegetables, and are seeing a related uptake of these products by their student populations.

5.2 Updates from Work Plan Groups

Need Food

- This group met back in April. A possible survey of food bank users to obtain feedback regarding their experiences and the foods that are available to them was discussed.

Rather than pursue this, the sub-group has opted to engage food bank users in conversations around basic income.

- Members of the sub-group will present on the basic income guarantee at the (KFS) Member Agency Meeting in September.

Get Involved

- Scheduled to meet in August.

Create Change

- This group met in May to discuss a PFAN response to the City's official plan similar to the [Plant It](#) response that was submitted by the network in 2011.
- Since that meeting, and in an effort to gather information, the sub-group has co-hosted two events on the topic of 'edible cities' with Nourish. Attendees were divided into groups according to the themes in the draft food charter to discuss what could be happening in their neighbourhoods. Drawings were created by groups to illustrate ideas. **ACTION: Carolyn to bring in the drawings to a future PFAN meeting.**
- The most recent of the two meetings involved exploring the drawings further to envision what this would mean for the City, and how we can look at access to food and food systems using language in official plan. Feedback from these meetings will be used to draft the Plant It 2 report.
- Carolyn also advised that the draft food charter was brought to the Sustainable Peterborough Future of Food and Farming group. They felt it would be worthwhile to do broader consults. An event will be held in September PFAN members will be invited once details are confirmed.

5.3 OMAFRA Survey – Local Food Access Goals

Carolyn brought forward details regarding this [survey](#) and sought feedback from attendees in order to submit a response on behalf of PFAN.

Question 1: How could the draft goals be revised to better support increasing access of local food to all Ontarians?

- need to address income security needs
- promote access to local food, make it more available/obvious in stores (e.g., signage, details regarding grading/origin needs to be clear)
- current labelling takes away from deeper locality (current regulations specify province only), more identification would be beneficial
- institutional procurement – introduce legislation that would mandate institutions to procure certain percentage of food locally
- have a provincial food policy
- infrastructure supports/funding programs for greenhouses, cold storage, frozen storage, canning, etc.

Question 2: What is currently happening in your community to support local food access?

- community gardens
- farmer's markets

- provincial support for farmer's market vouchers
- food boxes, alternate distribution
- food distribution and food hubs
- members also discussed the Ontario Agri-Food Venture Centre (near Colborne). How often is it being used by Peterborough food producers? Can this model be expanded across the province?

Question 3: How should success toward the draft local food access goals be measured?

- measuring how many programs exist (food cooking)
- ensure that farmers are paid a fair market value for wage so that farming is sustainable
- build security for all
- what incentives can be established to encourage restaurants/institutions to use local food?

5.4 Proposed Changes to Guidelines and Nutrition Suggestions for Community Funded Meals

Carolyn reviewed proposed changes to the [guidelines](#) and [nutrition suggestions](#) for community funded meals based on feedback from surveys completed by Nourish Peer Advocates with people attending meals. These guidelines and suggestions were initially developed by the PFAN in 2012. Feedback was provided, the updated versions will be posted to the Food in Peterborough website.

5.5 World Food Day 2016 Planning

Sunday, October 16 is World Food Day, the theme is: *"Climate is changing, food and agriculture must too"*.

The group discussed options, Joëlle noted that Nourish is looking at a different community meal model and the event could involve discussion on this, and potentially feature a speaker. Dr. Salvaterra noted it would be important to select a speaker that would appeal to all ages (children as well), and/or provide an activity or something where people are engaged.

Dr. Salvaterra offered Peterborough Public Health (PPH) as a venue for the event. **ACTION: Members interested in assisting with planning should contact [Carolyn Doris](#) or [Joëlle Favreau](#).** Jill and Linda volunteered at the meeting.

6.0 Round Table Themes

6.1 Income Equity/Advocacy

(PPRN; Income Security Work Group; Nutritious Food Basket)

- The Province has committed to a pilot on the basic income guarantee (BIG), the government has appointed Hugh Segal as an advisor on the design and implementation of this project.
- Nourish is hosting a conversation and dinner on BIG on July 26 from 5 – 8 p.m. at PPH.
- Dr. Salvaterra noted that staffing contracts are complete at the PPRN, the network will be establishing a new steering committee. She will provide further updates as they become available, likely after the summer.

- PPH has conducted costing exercises for the next Nutritious Food Basket report which should be out in the fall. It appears that food costs have increased by almost 5% since last year.

6.2 Emergency Food/Community Meals/Community Food Hub/Food Programs

(Kawartha Food Share; Faith Community members; Nourish Project; JustFood; Collective Kitchens; Gleaning; City of Peterborough)

- Chris advised that he is involved in preparing a report on behalf of Social Services (and in collaboration with PPH) to City Council on community meals.
- A 3-month evaluation was done on the One Roof Community Diner (2 surveys, one with volunteers and one with clients). **ACTION: Chris to share the evaluations with PFAN.**
- The gleaning program has facilitated 5 car trips and 6 buses to local farms. Due to the drought, picking is harder as produce is smaller and the conditions are very hot.
- The YWCA just received a Trillium grant (one year seed grant) to fund 'Growing/Belonging', intercultural cooking workshops aimed at members of the Greater Peterborough Area who are low income and/or newcomers to Canada.
- 'Cooking out of the Box' workshops begin Monday. Attendees will learn about preparing and storing items available in the JustFood box.

6.3 Urban Agriculture/Farming/Local Food

(PCGN; Farms at Work; Sustainable Peterborough; Farmers Markets; Peterborough Eats; By the Bushel; Seasoned Spoon; Kawartha Choice)

- Jill noted that drought conditions continue to be an issue, especially for community gardens where a source for water is an ongoing concern. Jill has contacted the City and Peterborough Utilities and this issue remains unresolved. Dr. Salvaterra suggested that Jill draft a letter which can be circulated to PFAN for feedback, the letter can then be sent by Alida on behalf of the network. **ACTION: Jill to draft the letter for feedback.**
- Peter updated members on work he had done recently with the Board of the Peterborough Farmer's Market. An exercise in placemaking, he set up tents with benches and water, and was available to answer questions and talk to visitors about why they visited the market, educating them about local food and encouraging them to be informed consumers.
- By the Bushel is moving their business plan forward and hopes to have a permanent location in/around downtown which would include a retail section open to members and non-members as well as a wholesale section. A draft version of their vision was circulated at the meeting, BTB plans on holding consultations in the fall. Members were encouraged to provide feedback. Their new website has been launched at www.bythebushel.ca; they are also hiring for a new co-op operations coordinator, details can be found on their web site.

6.4 Food Policy

(PSPC; Municipal Update; Community Social Plan; Healthy Communities/Partners in Wellness)

7.0 Other

8.0 Agenda Items for August 18, 2016

9.0 Meeting Highlights for Email Notice

10.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Parked Items

Future Items

PCFN meetings take place the third Thursday of every month at Peterborough Public Health, Dr. J. K. Edwards Board Room (3rd Floor), 185 King Street from 1 – 2:30 p.m. Please submit your agenda items to Alida Tanna (atanna@pcchu.ca) no later than 1 week prior to the meeting for inclusion in the circulated package. Meeting agendas and minutes for the PCFN are posted in the 'Create Change' section of the [Food in Peterborough](#) web site.

Any community member or organization is welcome to submit relevant updates which may be shared as part of the 'Round Table' section. The organizations listed below each heading are examples of each theme or grouping, and are not meant to be exclusive. If you cannot attend a meeting to provide your update, please submit them via e-mail to Alida Tanna.