

## **Peterborough Food Action Network (PFAN)**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 16, 2017

1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

**Dr. J. K. Edwards Board Room, 3rd Floor**

**Peterborough Public Health, Jackson Square, 185 King Street**

**Attendees:** Katty English, Joëlle Favreau, Jilian Bishop, Caitlin Bragg, Chris Kawalec, Brian Skinner, Lori Sainte, Dorothy Boddy, Erica Richmond, Lyn Miller, Dr. Rosana Salvaterra (Chair), Carolyn Doris, Alida Gorizzan (Recorder)

#### **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

#### **2.0 Approval of Agenda**

Approved as circulated.

#### **3.0 Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2017**

Approved as circulated.

#### **4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes**

##### **4.1 Water for Community Gardens**

Jill Bishop updated the group regarding recent challenges with the City's Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee in trying to secure a reliable water source for community gardens.

In follow up to initial correspondence sent to Allan Seabrooke last year, a second letter was sent to this Committee which was considering the request at its [February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting](#) (a rescheduled date). The intent of the letter was to supplement a report which was being prepared for the Committee's consideration. Unfortunately, the final report was not vetted with Nourish, and recommendations (which were presented as being supported by Nourish) were passed at the meeting without further discussion or debate.

These recommendations included:

- a) That City-owned parks containing an existing municipal water source be considered the preferred locations to establish new community gardens;
- b) That a neighbourhood consultation process be conducted each time a request is made to establish a community garden at any of the preferred locations; and
- c) That requests to establish community gardens on City-owned land not containing an existing municipal water source be considered on a case by case basis, and if approved the land use agreement must clearly identify that it will be the perpetual responsibility of the land user to provide its own water source, at its own expense in a form acceptable to the City.

Furthermore, it was noted that requests to establish new community gardens should only be considered between October 1st and December 31st in any given year, to allow time for neighbourhood consultation to take place, and the approval process to be completed, in time for the spring planting season.

The following was noted:

- Any new community gardens established on City property (as identified in the report, [attachment B](#)) would be provided with water, free of charge. Unfortunately, many of the sites exist outside of the downtown core and would not be accessible to those residents with limited incomes in the urban centre.
- There is no solution for existing community gardens, including the four which exist on City property. It was questioned that if the four City sites could furnish containers, whether the City could fill them with water while workers water other City properties/containers (e.g., hanging plants in the downtown area).
- All future parks should have a tap installed, however this appears to be up to the discretion of the developer.

**ACTION: Dr. Salvaterra will request whether it will be possible to speak at the next Advisory Committee meeting scheduled to take place on March 21<sup>st</sup> (the day prior to World Water Day) to communicate concerns regarding this recent decision.**

## **5.0 New Business**

### **5.1 Work Plan Group Updates**

- ***Need Food Work Group:*** The meeting date was rescheduled to March 30 at 1pm in the Anstruther Lake Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) at Peterborough Public Health.
- ***Get Involved Work Group:*** Only a few members could make the last meeting. Attendees discussed an implementation plan for their work plan items; they are also looking at developing an inventory of resources (e.g., cooking and gardening tools). Jill noted that she could provide this information to the group.
- ***Create Change Work Group:*** Carolyn advised that members recently met on Friday. The group is looking at policy development and activities related to supporting system change. They identified that it will be important to connect with other local groups to ensure they are using the most relevant data (e.g., Hunger Count vs. Canadian Community Health Survey data) with respect to household and community food insecurity. Other work will be to continue involvement with the Peterborough Basic Income Guarantee Network, support the food charter and community garden by-laws, support the gathering of stories from community members with lived experience (i.e., digital storytelling).

With respect to the food charter, this document is scheduled to go to the Sustainable Peterborough Agriculture Advisory Committee in March, then back to the Board of Health (in April or May).

Dr. Salvaterra proposed that it may be useful to dedicate select PFAN meetings (i.e., every other month) to focus on work plan activities, however no decision to implement this was made at the meeting. Members are encouraged to join work groups by contacting Carolyn Doris at [cdoris@peterboroughpublichealth.ca](mailto:cdoris@peterboroughpublichealth.ca).

## **6.0 Round Table Themes**

### **6.1 Income Equity/Advocacy**

*(PPRN; Income Security Work Group; Nutritious Food Basket; Basic Income Guarantee)*

- The Province has [released its report](#) on the Basic Income Guarantee consultations held across Ontario from November 2016 to January 2017:
  - o 32,870 people responded to the public survey
  - o 1,213 people responded to the expert survey
  - o 1,193 people attended the in-person meetings (14 total)
  - o 537+ written submissions were received from private citizens and community groups (including BIG Peterborough).
- An announcement is expected in spring 2017 regarding the selection of cities for the pilot. There are ongoing consultations regarding a culturally-appropriate approach for BIG within Indigenous communities.

### **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)*

- As part of her placement with Peterborough Public Health, Katty English is overseeing a survey of the Nourish JustFood Box program. Two fresh produce boxes and one staples box are delivered over the course of a month by the program. The intent of the survey is to obtain feedback on the potential inclusion of key recipe items (e.g., corn starch, baking powder, etc.) enable customers to build up a “basic shelf”. Survey questions have been asked in person at pick up locations, hard copies were included in the March 8<sup>th</sup> box and an online version can be completed [here](#).
- The [Seasoned Spoon](#) will host their final community meal of the year on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the meal will feature a presentation and discussion from Nourish about BIG. These community meals occur twice per semester at Trent. Caitlin advised that she would connect with Peterborough Gleans in order to discuss gleaning of the Trent Vegetable Gardens (TVG) over the summer. Given that there are less students on campus during this time, TVG often donates excess food to local groups in need. Caitlyn also noted that research was underway with the Trent Community Research Centre regarding a student food box program, given the previous discussion, she will connect with Nourish regarding potential opportunities.
- Chris reported that meals at the One Roof Community Diner have gone very well. The number of attendees is approximately 150. Positive feedback has been received regarding the culinary training program. A mini employment centre (staffed by an employment counsellor) will be established on site in response to requests for this resource.

### **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 reported that Seedy Sunday was a success with over 1500+ attendees.
- Nourish will host several workshops:
  - o **Seed Starting 101:** March 27<sup>th</sup> (1 - 3pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm) at Peterborough Public Health.
  - o **Growing Great Gardens:** March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 6<sup>th</sup> (6:30 - 8:30pm) at Peterborough Public Health.
- The Seasoned Spoon / Trent Vegetable Gardens also have several upcoming workshops:
  - o **Seed Starting:** March 29<sup>th</sup>, 5 – 7:30pm
  - o **Vegetable Gardening 101:** March 27, 5 – 7pm
- The Downtown Farmer's Market will hold their Annual General Meeting next week. For the upcoming season, Jill advised that the market will be held in the Louis Street Parking Lot, however it may move in the fall.

#### 6.4 Food Policy

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

- Transition Town Peterborough is hosting a meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Sadleir House to discuss the establishment of a Local Food Association.
- A Leap Forum on Climate Change and the Peterborough Official Plan will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 7-9pm at Trinity United Church (food will be a topic of discussion).
- Details are forthcoming from the City regarding urban hens.

#### 7.0 Other

#### 8.0 Agenda Items for April 20, 2017

- Urban Hens Update
- Water for Community Gardens Update
- Food Charter Update

#### 9.0 Meeting Highlights for Email Notice

#### 10.0 Adjournment

#### Parked Items

#### Future Items

*PFAN 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 Gorizzan ([agorizzan@peterboroughpublichealth.ca](mailto:agorizzan@peterboroughpublichealth.ca)) no later than one week prior to the*

*meeting for inclusion in the circulated package. Meeting agendas and minutes for the PFAN 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 Gorizzan.*