

MINUTES OF THE
NAPA COUNTY LOCAL FOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
September 28, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

(Reminder: Audio portion of meeting is being recorded.)

The meeting was held in the Ag/UCCE Meeting Room, 1710 Soscol Ave., Napa, CA 94559 and called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Chair Carrie Strohl.

Roll call was taken and the following council members were present:

Holly Dawson, Jonathan Hall, Juliana Inman, Jeannie Kerr, Karen Schuppert, Leigh Sharp, and Carrie Strohl

The following council members arrived after roll call was taken:

Kristin Miller

The following council members were excused or absent:

Lisa Bissell Paulson, Diane Dillon, and Amanda Safford were excused. Jessica Mennella was absent.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After a quorum was present, a motion was made by Holly Dawson to approve the minutes for the special meeting held July 27, 2016 as presented. Motion seconded by Juliana Inman. Motion passed unanimously. Leigh Sharp abstained.

3. **REVIEW OF MEETING AGENDA**

Carrie reviewed the meeting agenda.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joy extended Lisa Bissell Paulson's invitation to everyone to attend "What's for Lunch" at the college. Lunch will be on her and please meet in the dining hall. This will be their Food Day event on the 24th from 11:30-1:00.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Food Day Update

Jeannie Kerr gave an update on the Food Day event to date and invited all to attend this year. Katie then spoke and advised she has been reaching out to all the school districts as well as going into the classrooms and promoting Food Day 2016 there. It is set for Monday, October 24th and is a kid-friendly event open to everyone. She will pick up the I Eat Real stickers from the Ag Comm office left over from last year to distribute. She then ran through the agenda for Food Day. From 4:30-5:30 there will be school displays and at the same time have 4 local chefs who have been challenged to make an entrée for \$1.25. From 5:30-6:30 there will be a panel discussion that is comprised of Dominic Machi from Davis Unified, John Deasy, former Superintendent of LA Unified, Karen Relucio, Chief of Public Health and a

psychologist that just signed on so the name was not known. 6:30-7:30 will be the film screening of "Lunchline".

Dave Layland spoke about the lineup for the Farmer's Markets' version of Food Day to take place on October 22nd from 8-12:30. There will be Healthy Cooking with Kids, the Master Gardener's will be there with information on the importance of pollinators in food production, Napa County Parks will be there with their Go Out and Play theme, the City of Napa recycling will have an activity for kids on recycling and composting, the Ag Commissioner and Food Council will be there with Food Day information, the Latino Coalition for Healthy CA will be there along with a few others. There will also be a bag drive event where for every 10 plastic bags turned in, the person will receive a reusable bag.

Carrie wants to involve the Council to help publicize Food Day so she challenged all to take 1 Spanish poster and 3 English posters to put up around town. Each Council member then shared ideas of where they will put them.

Holly advised there are postcards to take and distribute as well. She will share the event on Facebook and give a list of hashtag names to use to promote the event.

Joy will send her newsletter out on Thursday, September 29th.

Holly will contact the radio station regarding a Food Day PSA. Carrie and Holly will work on that together. Holly said a press release has gone out and noted that Katie has done a great job getting the word out to the schools.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **CanDo Napa Food Project**

Carrie described and gave an overview of NVCanDo. Joy and Carrie explained the Food Project currently underway by NVCanDo. Each person who signs up to participate in the Food Project gets a green bag to fill with food and then two months later, a neighborhood coordinator picks the bag up and brings the food collected to the Food Banks. So far it seems to be a very effective way to bring food to the Food Bank. Carrie also described the 'Food Recovery' program that NVCanDo utilizes to bring food to the Food Bank. The Food Bank is located at 1766 Industrial Way in Napa.

B. **Comparative analysis**

Carrie presented her Comparative Food Analysis of local food availability and pricing results from 5 different locations in the area. She went to 2 Farmer's Markets and 3 food stores for the analysis. She chose items that were the same or that were the closest match possible within a 2 week period. If the item was not available, she averaged all the other prices for that item to get a price for the place that did not have item. The results were given out in the handout she created. The findings in a nutshell – Farmer's Market costs were very competitive and even less expensive in some cases than the grocery store.

Carrie also advised the minimum self-sufficiency monthly budget for food according to the Center for Community Economic Development for Napa County for 2 adults and 0 children is \$516.00.

C. **Special Meeting Discussion**

Joy informed everyone that Greg has been meeting with other departments within the County for the purpose of partnering with them. He will possibly call a special meeting in October.

D. CalFresh Presentation

Allison Muller, Program Analyst with HHS spoke on what it's like to be a recipient of CalFresh. She is responsible of keeping track of the rules for each of the programs and CalFresh is one of those programs. She described the EBT cards like a debit card that generally has 2 accounts on it. 1. CalFresh (can only buy food) and 2. CalWorks (can buy anything) She explained that CalFresh is only a supplemental benefit and it will not cover food for the month. Allison provided "Keeping Fresh Affordable", "CalFresh Program Fact Sheet" and other CalFresh handouts. She also passed out her business card and offered anyone to call or email her with questions.

Dave Layland said the Farmer's Market is currently working with USDA trying to get CalFresh to be accepted there. Since the Farmer's Market just moved to a new location, they had to reapply to be an approved EBT site. They started this process back in April and hope to be able to start accepting EBT cards in 10 days. As it stands now, EBT recipients will have to get tokens to use at the Market. As a way around that visibility of having to use tokens, Carrie encouraged the Market to look into "Market Carrot Cash". This is where the EBT and credit cards are swiped and then given carrot cash. This way all would have the same thing and not stand out as an EBT person.

E. Report out on assigned tasks

ii. Community/School Garden Support – Juliana advised the Parks and Rec Dept. will be holding a planning workshop sometime in November so they know a community garden is desired and budgeted for. As soon as she gets a date she will let Joy know so she can distribute that information. She would like all to attend the meeting. The community garden they are working on now will be at Garfield Park. A discussion took place on identifying spots for community gardens in the future.

7. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Karen proposed a challenge for all to support the local Farmer's Market. There is a survey being conducted now regarding interest in an evening market.

8. NEXT SCHEDULED SPECIAL MEETING DATE

There are two meeting dates, January 17th and May 17th, where we do not have a room available. Carrie said the January meeting could possibly be held at Pueblo Vista Elementary School and Kristin will check with HHS for meeting space for the May meeting. The next scheduled meeting is set for November 16, 2016, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the UCCE Meeting Room however; Juliana advised that this is the date for the American Association of University Women (AAUW) event. The topic of this event is Food Insecurity. There was much enthusiasm to make this the location of the next Food Council meeting. Carrie and Joy will find out the details and possibly make this the next meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**
Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. by Carrie Strohl.

CARRIE STROHL, Chairperson

ATTEST:

LINDA KELLER, Council Secretary