

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

KARA HAHN
LEGISLATOR, FIFTH DISTRICT



COMMITTEE CHAIR
ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING
& AGRICULTURE

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

- COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
- ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST REVIEW BOARD
- WATER & LAND INVASIVES ADVISORY BOARD
- FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

VICE-CHAIR
PARKS & RECREATION

MEMBER
PUBLIC SAFETY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
& ENERGY

COUNTY LEGISLATURE

TO: Members of the Food Policy Council:
All interested parties

FROM: Honorable Kara Hahn

DATE: April 14, 2015

RE: Food Policy Council Meeting Agenda

I. INTRODUCTIONS

- Augie Ruckdeschel* (Chair)
- Michael Winik (Our Harvest)
- Abdul Rattu (Neighborhood Country Market)
- Vivian Viloría-Fisher* (Former County Legislator)
- Lauren Moy* (Sustainable Long Island)
- Janet Sklar (Former School Food Services Director at Bay Shore UFSD)
- Nikki Kateman (RWDSU Local 338)
- Susan Wilk (Cornell Cooperative Extension)
- Stephen Kane (Suffolk County Department of Health)
- John Krakowski (Department of Health Services)
- Monique Gablenz (Calverton Business Incubator)
- Amanda Watral (Health & Wellness Council of Long Island)
- Allison Puglia (Island Harvest)
- Gregson Pigott* (Suffolk County Department of Health Services)
- Zachary Baum (Office of Legislator Kara Hahn)

*Indicates Voting Members

II. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Edible School Garden Program – Myron Levine, Judiann Carmack-Fayyaz, Zach Johnson and Sylvia Channing (invited but were unable to attend)
- b. Steve Kane – DHS – “Temporary Food Service at Farmers Markets” (SLIDES ATTACHED)
 - Bureau of Public Health is responsible for enforcing the Suffolk County Sanitary Code.
 - Goal is to prevent foodborne illness.
 - We have a low rate of foodborne illness in Suffolk County.
 - There are 4,500 food service establishments in Suffolk County.
 - Permits are required for “food service establishments”.
 - Permit is renewed annually for permanent establishments.
 - Farmers Markets are subject to inspection by the New York Department of Agriculture & Markets.
 - “Temporary” food service establishments can only operate for a maximum of 14 days. The days do not need to be consecutive.
 - If food preparation activities (like cooking demonstrations or samples) constitute less than 50% of the total sales volume of a farmers market vendor, no SCDHS permit is needed.
 - Permit fee is waived for non-profit entities.
 - There’s a “home processor exemption” process that can be obtained from the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets.
 - Bureau of Public Health strives to work with vendors to conduct business in a safe matter.
 - Access to toilets with hot and cold running water for food handlers are required at all farmers markets. This CAN include the accessibility of nearby businesses, churches, public facilities, etc.
 - There’s an online version of the “Food Service Manager” course in addition to the in-class instruction course.

III. COUNCIL VACANCIES UPDATE

- a. Abdul Rattu filling “Retailer” vacancy
 - Appointment has been filed, will be acted on at the May 7th Health Committee Meeting and then at General Meeting on May 12th.
- b. Janet Sklar filling “School Administration” vacancy
 - Appointment has been filed, will be acted on at the April 23rd Health Committee Meeting and then voted on at the April 28th General Meeting.
- c. Recommend Nikki Kateman to replace John Woods (Local Food Workers)
- d. (Update: Letter has been received since the conclusion of the meeting) Recommendations to replace Robert Schaefer (Food Processor)
 - Monique Gablenz (Director of the Calverton Business Incubator) Recommendation to replace “Regional Planning Council” with “Seafood Industry” representative. Also, a recommendation was made to amend the legislation to create vacancies when Council members fail to attend 50% of the meetings.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

- Community Gardens
 - o Iman discussed the food tasting that she organized in conjunction with Legislator Hahn’s office at the Dennison Building. Response was overwhelmingly positive to these healthy alternatives.
 - o Most people were willing to pay more for healthier options.
 - o The survey had a sample size of 80.
 - o Iman noted that the machines in many of the county buildings are outdated and perhaps could be modernized (such improvements could include a credit card reader).
 - o Iman discussed the branding efforts that are underway to promote healthy vending (SEE ATTACHED).
 - Six beach umbrellas will have the “True Food Long Island” logo.
 - Food Education
 - Vivian suggested having Janet Chair the Food Education Committee or at least join it.
 - Food Equity (NEW Subcommittee Chair needed)
 - Dr. Pigott visited more stores. He pinpointed a couple of potential spots. Two good prospects in Wyandanch and one in Gordon Heights. Vivian had suggested Bravo Supermarket in Port Jefferson Station.
 - Why Buy Local?
 - Augie announced two new grant opportunities (SEE ATTACHED)
- V. 2015 LONG ISLAND FOOD CONFERENCE – April 25th at Hofstra University
- a. Three Food Policy Council Panels
 - b. Visit lfoodconference.com for more information.
 - c. There will be cooking demonstrations!
 - d. Conference is free for volunteers.
- VI. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
- Augie announced an idea to brand local farmers like baseball players are branded on baseball cards (SEE ATTACHED)
 - Augie mentioned that there are a lot of underbranded local seafood including Bluefish, Porgie, and Pollock to name a few.
 - Vivian had suggested Bravo Supermarket in Port Jefferson Station as a spot to market underbranded local seafood.
 - Augie announced that the next round of Empire State Development funds will become available in the next month or so.
 - Susan announced the Riverhead Farmers Market (SEE ATTACHED).
- VIII. Announcements
- a. Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) - Due May 14th
 - b. Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) - Due May 14th
 - c. Farm to School Grants –Due May 20th
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

