

## **Connecticut Food Policy Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, March 13, 2014**

#### **Attendees**

Members: Lucy Nolan, EHC! (Vice Chair); Gloria McAdam, Foodshare; Bill Seedman, DSS

Participants: Helana Hoover-Litty, CAND, Jenna Nicol, DCP

Lucy Nolan chaired the meeting, as Chairman John Frassinelli was unable to be present. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 PM

The Minutes of the January 12, 2014 meeting were not approved due to the lack of a quorum.

There was no meeting in February.

#### **Additions to the agenda:**

Tour of Foodshare Facility

#### **Update on Local Food Policy Convening:**

No date has been set.

#### **Legislative Updates:**

Ag Day is Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. In the past we have had a table with giveaways and literature reflecting the work of the Food Policy Council. Somewhere there is a display already prepared. Could possibly use materials provided by the local FPC's in CT, as handouts.

EHC! Will also have a table in the concourse and is encouraging individuals to share stories about Poverty in CT using #TalkCTPoverty

The End Hunger CT! Legislation watch list was distributed.

#### **Agency and Guest Updates:**

This month, DSS moved swiftly to preserve SNAP benefits for approximately 50,000 Connecticut households. The recently signed farm bill raised the minimum LIHEAP payment necessary to qualify for the standard utility allowance. Governor Malloy directed DSS to make the necessary changes in LIHEAP payments to avoid the benefit decreases. Under Commissioner Bremby's leadership, The DSS SNAP Division working with the IT department made sure the changes were implemented. Without these actions the average decrease for these 50,000 households would have been \$112.00. Anti-Hunger advocates across the country are applauding DSS' response.

The Foodshare Walk Against Hunger will be held on Sunday May 4, 2014 at Hartbeat Park, 140 Garden Street, Hartford. Interested teams and individuals can register online.

**Tour of Foodshare facility at the Regional Market:**

The meeting adjourned and attendees joined Gloria for a tour of the Produce receiving/sorting/storage facilities.

NEXT MEETING APRIL 10, 2014, location to be announced.