



## Lake County Community Food Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 16, 2016

3:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Church in Baldwin

Participants: Leo Heska, Paul Betts, Freddie Rosado, Nancy Przedwojewski, Meryl Smith, Donna Norkle, Dennis Cosby, Tom Ellis, Kathy Merchant, Sue Brown-Havens, Fr. Ron Schneider, Kendra Gibson, Kendra Wills, Erin Barrett, Gordie Moeller

1. Welcome and Introductions – Freddie, Chairperson and/or Nancy, Co-Chairperson
2. Quick review of last month's minutes. Any corrections?
  - a. No corrections were offered.
3. Donna from the DHD #10 on the new \$5,000 grant opportunity for the Food Council
  - a. Handouts were distributed. \$50,000 will be divided among the ten county local coalitions. The new CDC grant Roundtable in Lake County wasn't interested in taking on a project. They are more of a communication-based group. Sally Mellema is on maternity leave and is leading this project. Donna is assisting with the project as well.
  - b. Donna believes that Sally answered a community assessment and perhaps the group would like to go through her answers to make sure the group agrees with the assessment as Sally answered it.
  - c. To obtain the \$5,000, the group must develop a project proposal. It should be something more permanent and sustainable and not just a short-term project. The purchase of food and building construction costs should not be requested.
    - i. Note: The CDC project is going to be working on breastfeeding initiatives and training for employers.
    - ii. There is no specific due date for the project proposal. Funds must be spent by September 30.
  - d. The group developed the following project ideas and we will research them and will decide on the best project at our next meeting:
    - i. Proposal 1: Label maker/printer, scale, laptop and software for Gordon Food Service food pantry donations to individually package the donations for distribution. This will be coordinated with other pantries. Equipment would be housed at the Bread of Life Pantry.
      1. Supported by the group by voice consensus.
        - a. Next steps:
          - i. Get pricing on this equipment – Leo
          - ii. Call True North and find out about their equipment - Leo
      - ii. Proposal 2: Support Luther Library and Pathfinder Library in their gardening education projects for youth and adults. Pathfinder is developing a garden area. Luther has a garden. We could call Chase and ask them if they would be interested.
    - iii. The group decided that the pantry was the first priority and left over funds could be

dedicated to the library projects.

1. Next steps:

- a. Invite librarians to the next meeting.

iv. Proposal 3: Portable garden stations for Senior Center or other locations.

- e. Volunteers to work on this project proposal: Leo, Tom, Paul, Meryl, Kendra Wills
  - i. Subcommittee to bring proposal to the whole group at the next meeting.

4. Update on the Bread of Life Pantry Expansion – Kathy Merchant

- a. We are go for the expansion!!!! Because grant were secured. Lake County Community Foundation Endowment - \$5,000 for food and \$5,000 for expansion. Two private grants \$2,800 were secured. We can start the addition. June 22 at 3:00 p.m. is a ground breaking ceremony.
- b. H & H excavating is being contacted. Karl Merchant is working on this project.
- c. “Sees” is a group of young people (late teens and early 20s) that will volunteer for construction. Freddie is also willing to help with construction.
- d. Food Safety meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 14 from 1-3 p.m. for the Food Pantries. Kendra Wills will mail the flyer to all the Lake County Regional Pantries. All of the splitting of chickens and beef will be done on stainless steel tables (at the Senior Center currently). The Meat Shack is also doing some breakdown of product for the pantry.
- e. Last week 78 families came through the Bread of Life pantry. Bitely closed their pantry. (List needs to be corrected.) Lots of seasonal and seniors using the pantry.

5. Celebration of the results of the June 11 Build a Box Workshop! Over 100 boxes distributed!

- a. Distribution of left over boxes?
  - i. This Wednesday Sue will distribute about 50 boxes at the Bread of Life Pantry. Paul will bring dirt and plants.
  - ii. \$402 out of \$600 spent. We still need to be billed for the plants. The next time we need to include mileage reimbursement. People that drove for the project please send your mileage to Kendra Wills.
  - iii. A Thank you note should be sent to Twin Lakes Nursery for plant donation.
  - iv. Next time we will use screws.

6. Logo update

- a. Do we want to order t-shirts? NO! The group did not want t-shirts.
- b. Name badges? No
- c. Business cards? Post-it size. Logo, web site, phone, meeting times, tag line. Yes!
- d. The group prefers apron with the logo.
- e. For the future: Donation receipt book with logo.

7. New Grant Project and Possible Presentation in Lansing this fall – Kendra Wills

- a. MSU Extension and Purdue University grant to develop a guidebook for Extension staff members to build food councils in rural communities.
- b. Presenters from Lake County for the October 28, 2016 Michigan Good Food Summit at Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI
  - i. Freddie and Paul (social justice and boxes) are interested in presenting. Contact Kendra Wills if you are interested in attending.
  - ii. Kendra volunteered to do field trips around Lansing the day before.

8. Ongoing project updates:

- a. CDC grant – Dennis Cosby
  - i. Irons Café and Barskes. Meryl will go through the menu of each location and a new table top menu will be created featuring
  - ii. Houseman's and Dublin's will be next on the agenda for identification of healthy foods. Fruits and vegetables. Demos in grocery stores on how to use healthy foods will be conducted.
  - iii. Freddie noted that he would allow a Cooking Demo at his farm stand or during Project Fresh.
- b. The Real Hunger Games – Leo
  - i. Leo has earned his hunters safety certification.
  - ii. Many young women are interested in archery and hunting.
  - iii. August is the most popular time for Hunters Safety courses, however, they don't occur in Lake County.
  - iv. He would like 4-6 co-instructors.
  - v. Leo has a new job and he is working long hours and is not sure if he can continue to lead this project.
  - vi. Seth with MSU Extension is working on starting a Shooting Sports 4-H Club started. This would not conflict with
- c. Donna introduced Erin Barrett with District Health Department #10 as a new health educator in Lake County + four other counties. She is working on creating healthy work sites to create a wellness program. She asked for suggestions of worksites. Yates Dial-a-Ride was suggested.
- d. Freddie reported that Circle R Farm decided that they will only sell what they grow. Freddie has been very busy planting and adding fish to his farm. He purchased another fish tank. He purchased some hybrid bluegills. Losses will be less than 5% this year – which is excellent.

## 9. Adjourn

Future meeting topic: Launching a 501c3 for the Food Council. (Paul has some resources to help with this.)

Adjourn by 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting: **August 8, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. (The July 11 meeting was cancelled in July.)**

**Remember to submit article ideas for the web site and e-news letter to Kendra Wills at [willsk@anr.msu.edu](mailto:willsk@anr.msu.edu)**

**[www.lakecofoodcouncil.weebly.com](http://www.lakecofoodcouncil.weebly.com)**