

Lake County Community Food Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 8, 2017 3:30 PM at St. Ann's Church in Baldwin

Participants: Carol with Care, Inc. (new attendee), Kathy Merchant, Sue Brown-Havens, Sally Mellema, Meryl Smith, Kendra Gibson, Wayne Eversole, Ruth Lorenger Jr., Nancy Przedwojewski, Joe Dukes, Tanya Scales, Kendra Wills

I. The group reviewed and accepted minutes of March meeting.

II. Total Council review and acceptance of:

A. Articles of Incorporation. Motion to approve

Motion to approve both the articles and the bylaws contingent upon correcting the numbering of the articles and condition of the PO Box in Baldwin. Paul Betts moved. Supported by Wayne Eversole. Motion carried with no opposition.

B. Wayne and Kendra Wills will work to complete the filing for non-profit status with the State of Michigan. After this is completed we will begin on the 501c3 status (long form) with the IRS

C. The group agreed that we should secure a P.O. Box for the Food Council. Funds were collected from all present able to give. Suggestion contribution was \$5 per person. Wayne will secure a P.O. Box in Baldwin. Estimated cost is \$50 per 6 months.

D. The new email address for the Food Council (checked by Kendra Wills and Nancy):

lakecofoodcouncil@gmail.com

E. Kendra Wills will order new business cards for the Food Council after the PO Box is secured

F. Fundraising ideas for operations costs? (PO Box fees, copies, etc.) This item was tabled for a future meeting.

III. Old Business: Review of Grant Projects

Update on Idlewild Community Garden (\$410): 100 x 50 garden area. Posts are going to be delivered. Deer netting going up. Building raised beds. Want to make it interesting and not boring rectangles. Building cinder blocks raised beds. Need to purchase blocks. Will be using leaves and coffee grounds and worms for compost base. Wayne reported that they will be using straw bales for the garden in Chase. Nancy said she would like to have pictures taken as the project progresses.

The check to the Food Council from the DHD #10 was not able payable to the correct organization. Sally is helping get a corrected check to the Food Council. The Idlewild funding is included in the check to the Food Council.

The Bread of Life Open House will be Saturday, June 3 from Noon – 3 PM. There will be light refreshments and tours of the pantry. The LCCC is preparing a press release and media contacts. The floor of the pantry is done. Kendra Gibson will be meeting with pantry staff about shelf labeling and family portion sizing tomorrow. Kendra Gibson is organizing a Photovoice display at the open house. Five people submitted three photos each and we hope to display these. The Health Department volunteered to laminate for the Bread of Life Pantry. Sally will be the contact for the laminator. This is part of the grant project.

Note regarding pantry electric bill: Another meter is getting installed by Consumers. Freezer was set too cold. Will determine what next steps will be after meter is installed.

Weber Park “Go Day” is June 10, 10:00–2:30. We are still in need of volunteers to distribute box gardens. Sign up sheet available. Wayne secured a donation of Dairy Doo. A tablespoon for each pot could be mixed in. Paul volunteered to deliver soil on June 8 or 9. 60 boxes still need handles. 50 boxes were ready for Rogation Day but only 15 were handed out due to poor weather. Still waiting for more milk/water jugs. LOTS more. Padnos jugs were not usable – too dirty. Paul said the Makers Market in Ludington is willing to make the ladybug designs for delivery to St. Ann’s by June 3. Half a yard of soil will be paid for by Kendra Gibson (VFF grant funds) and Paul will pick it up and deliver it to the park on June 10 at 9:30 AM. Paul said he could even drop it off at the park the night before if that is allowed.

Rogation day: 50 peppers and 50 marigolds were donated by the Pecks. Twin Lakes can also donate plants. Nancy said her son has a plant donation source as well. Thank you notes are need to all of these contributors.

Michigan Local Food Council Network meeting is Monday, June 12, 10:00 – 2:00. Registration is required. Four Council members signed up to provide desserts for 25 people. Look for an email coming about the meeting agenda.

Multicultural Workshop at St. Ann’s in Baldwin will be June 27 10:00 – 3:00 Limit 30. Kendra Gibson will provide a short synopsis for us to take back to church pastors, schools etc. 17 people are registered right now.

Canning Workshops June-Sept with Jane Hart of MSU Extension. Leo purchasing canning supplies. Flyer about the classes will be emailed to the group. Please help promote. A small booklet being made of 10 canning recipes, freezing instructions, and Food Council information to be included in the lending kits. This is less intimidating than the complete book of recipes from the University of Georgia. Lending kits will only be given to those that attend a canning workshop. Sally will be working on a press release.

IV New Business

Paul Betts and Grand Valley State University and Spectrum Health Care. Scott with Spectrum is going to contact Mercy in Muskegon, which has a mobile unit already. We are looking at fall because the process to set this up takes time.

Eat Fit NW MI. Report: Support and promotion is desired. Two more restaurants are joining the Eat Fit (Na Taka and Marquette Trails and Northern Exposure will be next.) Grant funding ends May 19 but Sally is working on this as part of her graduate school project. Looking at additional grant funds for staff time to keep this open.

Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

The next meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. on June 12.