**Meeting Minutes:** Lake County Community Food Council Meeting

**Date:** May 9, 2016

**Location:** St. Ann’s Church in Baldwin

**Recorder:** Kendra Gibson

Attendees: Lynne Mills, Kathy Merchant, Nancy Przedwojewski, Sue Brown-Havens, Carl Merchant, Chris Johnson, Dennis Cosby, Freddie Rosado, Kendra Gibson

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| **Agenda Item** | **Time** | **Action/Outcome** | **Person(s) Responsible** |
| Welcome & Member Introductions  Review of April meeting minutes | 3:40 | All attendees introduced themselves and which agency they work for (if applicable).  Minutes were approved as written.  Congratulations to Father Ron, Sue, Paul and Leo on their effort on Rogation Sunday!! 34 boxes were given out and they have gotten positive feedback on the event. | All |
| Build a Box Garden Workshop | 3:50 | Freddie confirmed that the Food Council is registered for the “Get Outdoor Day” on June 11 at Webber Township Park. Freddie will confirm the times but tentative times are 9:00 set up; 10-2 event; 2-3 clean up.  **Action: Please RSVP to Kendra Wills if you can help out for this event and the times you are available.**  Current team members planning to assist on the 11th: Freddie, Sue, Lynne, Chris, Kendra W. and Nancy (p.m. only)  **Action: Supplies needed for event**   * **Craft Supplies- paint, brushes, stencils, bowls for paint** * **Additional plants, seeds (planning group to develop list for Kendra G. by May 25)** * **3 tables, dirt, canopy** * **Sue and Paul will work with the Garden Club to prep more garden boxes (125 for distribution) and continue to collect plastic jugs.** * **Put together envelops (125) with community food resources and educational materials. Chris, Freddie and Kendra G will work on the ‘how to care for your box’ instructions. Chris will work on a food council logo for the group to enhance recognition in the community. 3 logo options will be mailed out for feedback the week of May 25.** | * Freddie will confirm times * **Everyone confirm availability for June 11 event with**   **Kendra W.**   * Kendra G purchase craft supplies and additional seeds, bring quencher cooler for water * Freddie will secure tables, canopy and dirt * Sue and Paul will coordinate garden box prep * Chris, Freddie and Kendra G will submit educational materials by May 25 for layout and copying through MSU-E office |
| Presentation by Dennis from DHD #10/  Community Health Assessment  DHD#10/ Community Health Assessment (con’t.) | 4:10 | Due to computer difficulties this presentation will be deferred to the June meeting. Dennis did share some statistics from Lake County related to poverty, obesity/overweight children and mom’s during pregnancy as compared to Michigan overall. Lake County tends to run above average in all categories and health issues are often related to nutritional habits. DHD #10’s coalition, Community Partnership for Healthy Mothers and Children, will be focusing on  breastfeeding in the workplace education, offering the farm market on Project Fresh days at the health department and menu labeling at restaurants and grocery stores. | * Dennis will present on the community assessment results at the June meeting |
| New Grant Opportunity from District Health Department #10/ Sally Mellema | 4:30 | Kendra G. presented an overview of the grant for Sally Mellema. The grant is part of the North West Michigan Chronic Disease Coalition/ Tencon funds. Sally asked for feedback from the council on their interest in moving forward with this opportunity. The council can apply for up to $5,000 and this request needs to be submitted by 9/30/2016. Sally stated that these funds can be utilized for sustainable programming such as expansion of the gardening project, farmers market development supplies, pantry equipment, healthy food marketing (no food purchasing or construction costs). The group agreed that there is interest and that this could be a focus area after the June 11 event. They would like further guidance on how to move forward at the June/July meeting or at a special meeting specifically for this grant. | * Sally Mellema or DHD #10 Representative assist the council with how to proceed with moving forward with this grant opportunity |
| Farmer’s Market Feasibility Study | 4:40 | Freddie and Kendra W. met with the Webber Planning Board. There is interest in the possibility of a farmer’s market at the park location. It was recommended that they meet with the township board/ parks commission  Kendra W. will continue gathering information through the feasibility study through the June 11th event. | * Freddie and   Kendra W. |
| Tilapia Breeding Project/ Circle R Farm | 4:50 | Freddie finished his college course on farm raised fish. He is working with Kendra W. on writing for an indoor fish farming grant and he plans to open a fish farm in Lake County.  Freddie also shared that Circle R will be open 6 days a week through July 4 and then will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday throughout the summer in Baldwin. They plan to have a farm stand at their home on US-10 open daily as well. He reported that the Tiki Hut farm stand is also now open. | * Freddie and Kendra W. |
| Project Updates  Project Updates (con’t) | 5:00 | **Bread of Life Pantry:**  Kathy reported that they have a meeting Wednesday to further discuss the expansion. They have had a cooler donated and have identified the glass door refrigerator they plan to purchase with Voices for Food funds. They still need a walk-in freezer. They have a fundraising walk on May 21st and 100% of the proceeds will go to the pantry. They welcome donations.  **CDC Grant through DHD #10:**  Next meeting is on May 17 at Lake Osceola Bank, 12-1:30. They plan to focus on menu labeling in restaurants, grocery store labeling and breastfeeding laws and the workplace. They have will be working on naming their group and developing a logo at the next meeting.  **The Real Hunger Games:**  Leo was not present to update. Tabled until the June meeting.  **Food Safety Training for the Food Pantries:**  There will be a training help for all food pantry volunteers on Thursday, July 14 at St. Ann’s Church. It will run from 1-3. Jane Hart, ServSafe Educator with MSU Extension will facilitate this training. A flyer will be made available to promote the event.  **E-Newsletter and Lake County Community Food Council website:**  Kendra W. has developed a webpage and e-newsletter for the council. The website can be found at <http://lakecofoodcouncil.weebly.com> .Please forward any items you would like posted or highlighted. | * Kathy Merchant * Dennis Cosby * Leo Heska * Kendra G. * Kathy Merchant * Jane Hart * Kendra W. |
| Discussion Question: What are ways we can get more people to engage in this project?  **Should we meet in July or cancel it as a vacation month?** | 5:30 | Due to the small number present at this meeting and time, discussion tabled until June meeting.  **Next meeting: Monday, June 13 at 3:30-5:00 at St. Ann’s Church** |  |
|  | 5:40 | Meeting Adjourned |  |