

Ottawa County Food Policy Council Local Food Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Chair: Garrett Ziegler	Meeting Date: August 2017
Priority: Increase sourcing of local food in Ottawa County.	
Present: Garrett Ziegler, Gordie Moeller, Katie Auwers, Lisa Uganski	

Goal #1: Support the development of policies that increase the sourcing of local food.

Action Step	Strategies Strategies/Person Responsible/Date Strategy to be completed
aa. Keep up to date on policies/legislation related to farm to institution. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Garrett will create a google doc for housing local food procurement policies https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BlwFFYCQap-6bKs3mZJ0ggiSEKwDGdaPRxhE0cpryHc/edit#gid=0
ab. Select policy(s) to work toward implementing. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Focus on local food procurement for 2017
ac. Identify decision makers who need to be engaged. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	County commissioners/boards, purchasing department and planning department, fiscal services
ad. Advocate for policy change or development. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	In progress, once draft county resolution is complete will definitely be advocating more

Goal #2: Increase supply of food from local farmers.

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Action Step	Strategies Strategies/Person Responsible/Date Strategy to be completed
aa. Collect data on supply of excess produce available at farms/produce being wasted. Target Completion Date: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Survey was completed in spring of 2017, and a farmers market donation program was started in 2017 at Holland farmers market and continued in Grand Haven.
ab. Based on data, develop a U-pick donation program and/or a gleaning program. Target Completion Date: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Pilot program completed in June/July of 2017
ba. Collect data and explore the feasibility/need/interest of implementing the Hoop House for Health (HHFH) program. Target Completion Date: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Questions added to vendor survey in spring 2017 at Holland Farmers market still determining best way to move forward with initiatives around HHFH
bb. Educate farmers on the HFFH program. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Still determining best way to accomplish this
bc. Raise awareness of Head start agencies , Great Start, WIC, etc. regarding the HHFH program. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	See above
bd. Implement trainings and educational workshops for farmers on how to start HHFH program. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Garrett working with MIFMA and CRFS to schedule Ottawa County meeting on HHFH in spring 2018

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Goal 3: Expand a Farm to Institution distribution system (School, Restaurant).

Action Step	Strategies Strategies/Person Responsible/Date Strategy to be completed
aa. Identify the barriers to expanding a food hub into Ottawa County. Target Completion Date: Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Farmlink will be invited to next Local Food Meeting in September
ab. Raise Awareness of existing alternative local food distributors (Farmlink, Cherry Capital, Etc) Target Completion Date: Ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Held meeting with local Chartwells Food Service and alternative (local) suppliers in January. Possibility of planning larger meet/greet event in Fall 2017
b. Encourage Ottawa County Institutions to use cultivate Michigan tracking system and purchasing materials. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Working on developing list of institutions in Ottawa County in order to conduct outreach about Cultivate Michigan and F2I initiatives (Ongoing)
c. Increase usage of OCFPC Website forum for farmers and institutions to communicate with each other. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Website has been used by pantries in the past, but Lisa does not think much use currently, will check with pantry network group and update next month

Goal 4: Expand utilization of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's).

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Action Step	Strategies Strategies/Person Responsible/Date Strategy to be completed
a. Collaborate with MSU Extension to expand the CSA marketing model to Ottawa County. Target Completion Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Growers Fare Event being planned for the Local Food Expo event
a. Replicate Kent County CSA to Pantry project in Ottawa County through Comm. Foundation Grant. Target Completion Date: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box when complete	Farm to Pantry program is underway

Meeting notes:

- Reviewed strategic plan document and updated dates for targeted completion of tasks
- Discussed updates on existing projects (pick for pantries and CSA to Pantry)
- Also planning to engage more farmers in upcoming months