

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

KARA HAHN
MAJORITY LEADER
LEGISLATOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE CHAIR
ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING
& AGRICULTURE



COUNTY LEGISLATURE

VICE-CHAIR

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MEMBER

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION & INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
PERSONNEL & HOUSING
PUBLIC SAFETY

**TO: Members of the Food Policy Council:
All interested parties**

FROM: Honorable Kara Hahn

DATE: April, 11th 2017

RE: Food Policy Council Meeting Agenda

INTRODUCTIONS:

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I. PRESENTATIONS

1. Zahrine Bajwa Presents on the Eat Smart NY SNAP-Ed, a USDA-Funded Program Geared at Obesity Education

a. History

- i. USDA subsidized commodities farmer for crops such as corn, wheat, soy since the 1960's.
- ii. Most of corn grown is used for fuel and high fructose corn syrup
- iii. 15% of all farmers receive the majority of subsidies
- iv. Vegetable and fruit growers did not receive USDA subsidies
- v. Changes in USDA Policy 2014:
 - 1) More environment-focused not only nutrition-centric.
 - 2) Began supporting fruit and vegetable farmers as well as organic farmers.

b. Social Ecological Model of Health – implementing multiple changes at various levels to improve eating and physical activity behaviors.

- i. Faithful Families-North Carolina Model
- ii. Healthy Corner Stores
- iii. Healthy Food Pantries
- iv. Healthy Childcare settings – early childcare is new frontier of obesity prevention
- v. Healthy Laundromats
- vi. Strengthen Schools
- vii. School Gardens
- viii. Safe Streets
- ix. Farmers Markets

c. Results

- i. Costs per participant decreased to \$1.87/participant from \$8.82/participants as reported by EARS USDA
- ii. NYS incidence of obesity decreased since 2015 and continues (27% to 25%)
- iii. Soda consumption decreased. 2011 = 73% drank soda in past week. 2015 66% drank soda in past week.
- iv. Reimbursement for states now based on number of participants in SNAP

2. Josephine Connolly-Schoonen(JCS) follow-up on previous presentation on Creating Healthy Places

a. Collaborative Efforts with Sustainable Long Island and Cornell Cooperative Extension

- i. A model based on Troy's model (which has not passed legislation) a tiered system with increasing incentives for improved products in corner stores.

- ii. JCS presented idea of a Food Hub App, which would involve Stony Brook Univ. department of engineering. App would connect, growers, distributors, corner store retailers.
- iii. JCS proposes a focus group to work on app
- b. Discussion regarding app included:
 - i. Augie: several virtual foodhubs, including one called Market Maker exist.
 - ii. Zahrine: NYC has a faith-based pickup point and NYS licenses county licenses (utilizes MarketMaker)
 - iii. Janet: Existing distributors may be able to help
 - iv. Iman: who would own/work on app
 - v. Joel: distributors are too busy to make small deliveries to corner stores. If suppliers of Hispanic products can get produce to stores, this may be a good fit.
 - vi. Joel, Augie and Janet agreed to be part of focus group
 - vii. Zahrine suggested fisheries become part of that hub – reach out to previous guest John Scotti and FISH NY efforts.

II. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

1. Community Gardens

- a. Opened bank account at TD Bank account
- b. Still haven't been able to access LICGA website-waiting and speaking with Zahrine and staff.
- c. Facebook page Long Island Community Gardens Association LICGA

2. Food Equity

a. Corner Store Project

- i. La Tienda Latina kickoff May 19th Southampton

3. Why Buy Local?

- a. Suffolk County legislation IR-1025, which had been introduced to address the ramifications of the Pine Barrens Lawsuit, has been withdrawn. Suffolk County is working on an administrative solution. However, the appeal is proceeding and efforts to introduce correcting state legislation are moving forward.
- b. 3 applicants in Suffolk applied for the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program and the Local Food Promotion Program.
- c. Von mentioned that competition is high. Sustainable's application hopes to connect producers with youth staff markets, green markets, etc. to promote increased produce in low- income communities.
- d. Augie: FISH program has applied for local food fund program to push sustainable fish-porgies, bluefish, etc. Good for low-income communities. Funds already received from NY Farm Viability. The

Shinnecock Nation and Town of Riverhead also applied for funds for a new agritourism, ecotourism and cultural visitor center.

4. Agricultural Education

- a. Janet attended Javits Center Food show. Taste of NY was one of the displays.

III. Other Business

1. Next Meeting:

- a. Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 10 am. Room 177, Southampton High School, 141 Narrow Lane, Southampton

IV. Adjournment

