

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

**KARA HAHN**  
MAJORITY LEADER  
LEGISLATOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**  
ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING  
& AGRICULTURE



**VICE-CHAIR**  
PARKS & RECREATION

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

## COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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

**FROM: Honorable Kara Hahn**

**DATE: June 13<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**RE: Food Policy Council Meeting Agenda**

- 
- I. **INTRODUCTIONS:**
  - II. **Tour of Southampton High School 'School Gardens' and overview of farm to school coordinator efforts**
  - III. **Peter Garnham of Amagansett-East End Community Organic Farm and Share Harvest Farm**
  - IV. **Subcommittee Updates: Community Gardens, Food Equity, Why Buy Local?, Agricultural Education**
  - V. **Outstanding Business**
    - a. **Troy Ordinance**
  - VI. **New Business**
  - VII. **Next Meeting-August 15<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing in County Legislature Auditorium**
  - VIII. **Optional Tour South Fork Kitchens-at Student Center on Stony Brook University's Southampton Campus.**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>
Cara Montesano	<a href="mailto:cara.montesano@stonybrookmedicine.edu">cara.montesano@stonybrookmedicine.edu</a>	Stony Brook Medical
Iman Marghoob	<a href="mailto:imanmarghoob@gmail.com">imanmarghoob@gmail.com</a>	Long Island Community Gardens Assoc.
Gregson Pigott	<a href="mailto:gregson.pigott@suffolkcountyny.gov">gregson.pigott@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>	Suffolk County Department of Health
Janet Sklar	<a href="mailto:janet.sklar@optonline.net">janet.sklar@optonline.net</a>	SCFAC
May Zegarelli	<a href="mailto:meagan.zegarelli@suffolkcountyny.gov">meagan.zegarelli@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>	Kara Hahn's Office Bureau
Stephen Kramarick	<a href="mailto:stephen.kramarick@suffolkcountyny.gov">stephen.kramarick@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>	DSS
Matthew Kapell	<a href="mailto:mattthewkapell@suffolkcountyny.gov">mattthewkapell@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>	SCEDP
Diana Otis	<a href="mailto:jcfayyaz@gmail.com">jcfayyaz@gmail.com</a>	Bridgehampton School
Marissa Silverberg	<a href="mailto:marissasilverberg@gmail.com">marissasilverberg@gmail.com</a>	SUFSD/AFI
August Ruckdeschel	<a href="mailto:august.ruckdeschel@suffolkcountyny.gov">august.ruckdeschel@suffolkcountyny.gov</a>	SCEDP

Vanessa Lockel [Vanessa.lockel@exec.ny.gov](mailto:Vanessa.lockel@exec.ny.gov)  
Michael Haynes [mhaynes@licares.org](mailto:mhaynes@licares.org)  
Matt Tortora [matt@sourcewhatsgood.com](mailto:matt@sourcewhatsgood.com)  
Patricia Gremillion-Burdge [pgremill@wsboces.org](mailto:pgremill@wsboces.org)  
Jessica Anson [janson@lifb.com](mailto:janson@lifb.com)

Governor's Office  
Long Island Cares, Inc.  
Care Food Services  
WSBOCES  
Long Island Farm Bureau

**I. PRESENTATION 1: Marissa Silverberg South Forks Kitchen-Amagansett Food Institute Farm to School Grant-Bridgehampton, Southampton and Tuckahoe school districts**

- i. Two year Ag & Markets grant
- ii. Collaborative effort between three districts
- iii. Better access to fresh produce
- iv. Increased purchasing power
- v. Outreach with farmers
- vi. One piece of commercial kitchen equipment per district-chopper, fridge (grab & go)

**Augie: LI received the largest regional allocation of farm to school grant in the whole State of NY**

**II. PRESENTATION 2: Peter Garnham ([Editor@hamptons.com](mailto:Editor@hamptons.com)) - garden writer for various publications. Director of EECO Farm - East End Community Organic Farm.**

1. In 2001, the East Hampton Town and Suffolk County bought the development rights for 42 acres at 55 Long Lane for \$5 million. In addition, the Town bought fee title for the land for an additional \$650,000.

2. The East End Community Organic Farm (EECO Farm) is a non-profit enterprise that cares for 42 acres of East Hampton land. In turn, they lease gardens to individuals, families, and commercial farmers who agree to use organic methods of growing. Of the 120 gardeners who tend 20' x 20' gardens, skills range from the novice to the very experienced. Each plot is rented annually \$200. Each gardener gets unlimited compost and water. Compost is provided by the on-site 5-acre compost farm.

3. EECO Farm currently provides land by the acre to seven local farmers, including the Food Pantry Farm, which is a not-for-profit entity that raises fresh produce for donation to local food pantries. The Pantry has become a separate 501c3. The Food Pantry Farm also operates the EECO farm stand, which is open to the public, as a means to generate additional operating revenue for the Food Pantry Farm. During the growing season, the EECO farm stand offers local organic fresh fruits and vegetables for sale. 4-5 tons of food donated to pantries and church pantries, women's shelter.

### III. UPDATES

Augie: State legislation is being sought to re-empower our county legislature to allow structures to be built on preserved farmland (A. 7703/S. 6039). Home ruling in support of the bill was approved unanimously by the County legislature. Contact Jessica if your organization would like to sign a letter of support and lobby your local state legislators if supported.

Augie: Legislator Hahn is seeking feedback from the Food Policy Council on the "Purchase of Development Rights" rating sheet. Requesting volunteers for a subcommittee to review and give feedback.

Cedar Beach Facility- finalizing a kelp farming project. Cornell. Long-term future. Kelp cleans our water. Good commercial crop. Fertilizers. Regulatory hurdles remain. Where can it be grown? Planted fall-November, and harvested in spring.

Iman: LICGA connected with Long Island Nurserymen and Landscapers' Assoc. LINLA'S president and plans for future collaboration are in place. LICGA will also be part of the planning meeting for the November 4<sup>th</sup> Food Summit Conference at Hofstra. LICGA also contacted Johnny's Seed and waiting to complete application for discounts for LICGA members.

Dr. Pigott: Bodega stock healthy store update - kickoff event was successful.

Cara: Meeting with Leg. Lindsey to discuss incentive program. Additional meeting with legislators sought. Creating Healthy Schools and Communities has experienced difficulties bridging the language gap between purchasers and suppliers. Matt Tortora added that his website, WhatsGood works with many purveyors and connects buyers with producers. The service is free for buyers, is mobile and web-based and active in 29 states. His services may help alleviate language barriers.

Next meeting is the public hearing on August 15<sup>th</sup> in the main auditorium. Mike Haynes will present at this meeting.

