

## COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

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

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**  
ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING  
& AGRICULTURE



## COUNTY LEGISLATURE

**VICE-CHAIR**  
PARKS & RECREATION

**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: October 10th, 2017**

**RE: Food Policy Council Meeting Agenda**

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### INTRODUCTIONS:

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SBM  
SBM  
WSBOCES

## I. PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Diane Shulman Presents on the Long Island Farm to School Program and Supporting Local Farms

#### a. History

- i. Only independant potato packers on Long Island
- ii. Family-run business
- iii. Started with 15,00 lbs potatoes in 15 school districts to 75,000 lbs in many school districts
- iv. Warehouse in Brentwood; Office of General Services (OGS)
  - Schools pick-up local produce from this location ~1x/mos on alternating weeks to be used in school cafeterias

#### b. Goals/mission – The key of the program of to educate children and their families and try new foods.

- i. Provide schools with better quality produce than other wholesalers (i.e. Aramark)
- ii. Promoting fresh local produce in school districts
- iii. Provide local broccoli, potatoes, spinach, cabbage, onions, spring mix, carrots

### 2. Pattie Gremillion-Burdge from Western Suffolk BOCES

#### a. East End Farm to School Grant

- i. East Hampton, Southampton, Tuckahoe school districts, etc
- ii. Grant includes training school food service staff, buying equipment, and educating
- iii. Work with local farmers, get quotes, order food, provide taste testings
- iv. They go to the farms and pick up the produce for the schools and deliver
- v. Train food service staff on proper preparation techniques of fresh produce to limit waste
- vi. “Vegucation” - a 3 hour training on education regarding local produce in the cafeteria
- vii. Harvest of The Month - highlight one fruit/vegetable at school districts

### 3. Josephine Connolly-Schoonen presents on Corner Stores and Virtual Food Hub Delivery Systems - An Update

- a. Current NYSDOH grant; Creating Healthy Schools and Communities - with BOCES

- i. Goal - increase access and consumption of (local) healthy produce among financially stressed individuals in targeted communities.
- b. New Collaborations:
  - i. Goal - build virtual food hubs
  - ii. Source What's Good - a web-based platform to facilitate interactions/transactions between farmers/growers and purchasers in relatively close proximity
  - iii. work with school districts to purchase local produce and through this venue associate small community agencies to coordinate purchasing and benefit from such associations

## **II. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **1. Community Gardens**

- a. Linked their website to their Facebook page; Long Island Community Gardens Association LICGA
- b. Meet once a month every Thursday
- c. Collaborate with Save Our Soil (SOS)

### **2. Food Equity**

- a. Family Dollar recently added a grocery section to store
- b. Area is not as much of a food desert since adding the grocery part to the store

### **3. Why Buy Local?**

- a. There is a free trolley service on the East End (North Fork) lasting for 5 weeks. Only on Saturdays
- b. October 29th, 9-3 Suffolk County Marathon and Street fair
- c. Anyone who knows any farmers who wants to participate in providing a farm stand at the street fair, contact August Ruckdeschel

### **4. Agricultural Education**

- a. All students in the NYC and DC area schools are now getting free breakfast and lunch (Called universal feeding).
- b. Team Nutrition has new posters available for use
- c. Talk to your local Congressman about supporting healthy breakfast programs
- d. Loving Support award- for breastfeeding and encouraging women to breastfeed
- e. November 4-5th there will be a chocolate festival in Bethpage
- f. The president is proposing to cut SNAP benefits by \$191 billion

## **III. Other Business**

### **1. Next Meeting:**

- a. Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 9 am. Suffolk County Legislature, William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York 11787

#### **IV. Adjournment**

