

1. FS_Sustainability_Committee_Greenwich_Food_Alliance_Meeting_Agenda_2023_01_27

Documents:

[FS_SUSTAINABILITY_COMMITTEE_GREENWICH_FOOD_ALLIANCE_AGENDA_2023_01_27.PDF](#)

1.1. FS_Sustainability_Committee_Greenwich_Food_Alliance_Approved_Minutes_2023_01_27

Documents:

[FS_SUSTAINABILITY_COMMITTEE_GREENWICH_FOOD_ALLIANCE_APPROVED_MINUTES_2023_01_27.PDF](#)



Greenwich Food Alliance

Leveraging Inspiration, Knowledge and Networks

January 27, 2023

9:-00am - 10:15am

ZOOM

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Housekeeping - Ali + All
 - a. [MINUTES](#) (Approve)
3. Guests
 - a. 9:15 - 9:45 Reggy Saint Fortcolin + Nic Tedesco - *An Act Concerning Office of the Food Advocate*
 - b. 9:45 - 10:15 Lucy Nolan - *School Lunch For All Campaign*
4. Vote
 - a. Support / endorse initiatives
 - b. GFA logo
5. Initiative updates: share ideas, successes, needs + issues
6. Next meeting - March 31st @ 9:00am venue TBD



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1.27.23 | ZOOM

MINUTES - ~~DRAFT~~APPROVED

Attendance: Julie DesChamps Waste Free Greenwich, Ali Ghiorse The Foodshed Network, Danielle Jean-Guillaume Sittol Department of Human Services Youth Service Commission, Gaby Rattner Barbra's House, Sarah Coccaro, Environmental Affairs, Rebecca Poirier Environmental Affairs, Lori Jackson Neighbor to Neighbor and Meals on Wheels, Danielle Blain Food Rescue US, Myra Klockenbrink Pollinator Pathway

Meeting called to order 9:03am via ZOOM

Welcome - guests Reggy Saint Fortcolin, Nic Tedesco, and Lucy Nolan

Ali - announced launch of the Greenwich Sustainability Committee newsletter. Will be engaging Greenwich Food Alliance for the Food System Sector content.

Julie - announced K-12 Climate Action in Connecticut February 1st at 7:00, live webinar.

Initiative Update - we skipped updates to learn about the policy initiatives of our guests.

Reggy Saint Fortcolin Aspetuck Land Trust, Fridgeport and Bridgeport Food Policy Council, presentation on An Act Concerning Office of the Food Advocate and Fridgeport mutual aid. The Office will be a coordination and communication platform for all food related initiatives. Would like GFA support and endorsement. Food insecurity and lack of connectivity is not a Bridgeport or Hartford problem, it is a Connecticut problem.

Nic Tedesco The Center on Food Equity + Economic Development, supporting the Food Advocate initiative.

Lucy Nolan Policy Director at End Hunger CT, former ED of EHCT, back to focus on policy, specifically School Meals 4 All Campaign. SM4A elevates stigma, logistical barriers for families, helps elevate bullying and serves as a direct pathway towards food equity and justice. Kids behave better, do better at school – tax dollars provide pencils and books and supplies, we should provide for every child, no questions asked. Stories shared of kids sitting at the lunch table without food. Food is fundamental to wellness, critically important in equity and success for each child, this is an important policy for children and low wealth families. Food service providers can not deny a child food, which leads to debt. Not having access to meals during the day, compounds stress for parents who can not afford to feed their children.

Lori Jackson asked how organizations can support. Lucy; contact our Legislators.

Danille Blaine acknowledged Fridgeport's work, and mentioned how much Food Rescue Fairfield enjoys working with Fridgeport. Asked if they need food. Reggy; we always need food.

Danielle Sittol observed the significant need for emergency food aid during Covid, many families stood in long lines for food, Stamford has different policies, discussed the need for families to have access and this is very much about equity.

Julie observes when working in cafeterias overseeing recycling management roll out, the need that kids have for food and in discussion with the leadership at New Lebanon, kids are food insecure and need nourishing food to be provided in schools.

Lucy food is available but it is not easily accessible. Process is complicated, limited in funding and essentially exclusive. Universal meals will eliminate barriers, and address equity. Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is 40% and Greenwich is 14%.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20am.

Prepared by Ali Ghiorse

"Food is our most intimate and powerful connection to each other, our cultures and to the earth. To transform our food system is to heal our bodies, transform our economy & protect our environment."

HEAL Food Alliance