

Piedmont Triad Region Food Council Call

Monday, October 9, 2017

12:00 - 1:00pm

Co-facilitated by Gini Knight, Community Food Strategies and Liz Jernigan, Piedmont Triad Regional Council

Conference Line: (641) 715-3580, Access Code: 466038

Online meeting: join.freeconferencecall.com/community_food_strategies

Purpose: The goal of the call is to share updates and stay connected with food council leaders in your region, as well as collectively brainstorm regional collaboration.

Past Notes

- [2017 Spring Quarterly Call notes](#)
- [2017 Summer Meeting Summary](#)

Desired Outcomes:

- A shared understanding of recent food council successes and challenges
- Collective input on the structure and the criteria for members of a Steering Committee and Advisory Council for the Piedmont Triad Regional Food Systems Assessment
- Collective input on the value of collecting and sharing food council accomplishments across NC

AGENDA & NOTES

Welcome and Introductions

- Leslie Zimmerman(Caswell), Marianne LeGreco (Guilford), Peggy Robinson (SHFBNWNC), Betty Huskins (PTRC), Liz Jernigan (PTRC), Gini Knight (Community Food Strategies), Jessica Burroughs (Rural Forward NC / Rockingham) (7)

Food Council Updates: Share any recent successes or challenges.

- Alamance Food Collaborative
- Caswell Local Foods Council (Leslie)
 - End of Season Report
 - Capital farmers market, 22 weeks \$22791; 3500 shoppers;
 - Community kitchen, 593 jars with financial impact \$3558
 - \$5 token for kids to try food, \$3900 to farmers
 - Snap - doubled -\$807
 - Soups On, free meal on 2nd Wed of the month (684 participants)
 - Painted chair auction (\$4,900)
 - Challenges with volunteers and aging out.
- Davidson County Local Food Systems Network
- Forsyth Community Food Consortium
- Greater High Point Food Alliance
- Guilford Food Council (Marianne) -
 - Research leave;
 - local foods week went pretty well
 - Ugly Food Feast
 - Promoted on Facebook page (Guilford Local Foods Week

- Challenges with people leaving - need leadership development and outreach to other organizations focused on food systems; focus on internal leadership development; active local foods awareness group; no paid personnel; completely volunteer driven; challenging to convene group with volunteer led efforts.
- Tiki Toki - great timeline builder, building one on Piedmont Triad (loosely), primarily focused on Guilford, High Point as starting point starting in 2010; food research and action center study as anchor point; update & invite contributors to update. Other food councils welcome to update with contributions. Up to 50 licenses.
- <https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/842615/Food-Security-in-the-Piedmont-Triad>
- Randolph County
- Rockingham County (Jessica) -
 - Trying to get food council resurrected;
 - Survey to interested stakeholders;
- Piedmont Triad Regional Council (Betty Huskins & Elizabeth Jernigan)
 - Resources to complete food council assessment
 - Piedmont Triad Tomorrow Summit, Oct 10; one session is focused on local food: www.piedmonttriadtomorrow.eventbrite.com
- Second Harvest Food Bank (Peggy) - 18 county service area - includes Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Randolph, Guilford, Iredell that Peggy works with.
 - How can Second Harvest help push forward food council initiatives (i.e. grants)
 - Food security issues
 - Success in Caswell working directly with farmers
 - Currently in process of applying for grant from HP Community Foundation that will focus on working with farmers and gardening communities, greater high point food alliance, senior resources, educational opportunities for partner programs for efficiently & effectively working with seniors.

Opportunity for Q&A

- Questions - criteria/eligibility for mini-grants

Collective Input

1. **Piedmont Triad Regional Food Systems Assessment** - Our next step in beginning to create this assessment is to organize an advisory structure and to secure funding. Our proposal is to have multiple ways of stakeholder engagement:
 - Steering Committee (8-12 person) that meets regularly to lead and manage the Assessment
 - Advisory Council (larger group) that will meet once or twice a year to give input on the direction and content of the Assessment
 - Broader community - Public input will be collected in the form of surveys or from annual regional in-person meetings
 - [Suggestions for Advisory Council from Triad Food Council Gathering](#), at the bottom of the back page
 - [Initial Review for Triad Food Systems Assessment](#) by NCGT and PTRC Apprentice, with suggestions of Advisory Council members

What criteria is important in selecting Steering Committee members to move the logistics of this work forward?

- Jessica - be representative of the communities, those who are driving the work in each community
- Marianne - several focus group interviews in Guilford County about efforts going on (primarily coordinated by UNCG) through USDA grant received by City of Greensboro. Measuring outcomes. What's important and what we need to look at. Concept model on what we need to focus on together. Terminology we use throughout this is really important. Pay attention to terminology is used to invite people. Tendency to focus on food insecurity, but at a regional level, it needs to scale it up a little bit. Phrase as "Food Security," UN definition in terms of availability - can your food system produce food. Accessibility in the regional conversation. Affordable, Utility - how do you make use of the tools available to you. Manifests in terms of food systems, what structures are out there and how sustainable is the system you currently have going. Allows you to talk about agriculture in terms of distribution. Food insecurity - do you have enough resources to buy food. What does that look like and how does food access figure into that. Food Justice or Sovereignty - focuses on social justice aspects of food systems, in what way do individuals have power over their own food choices (transportation, housing, etc.) that we at the regional level have the opportunity to take into consideration. HP indicators is about more than just food (like Healthy Neighborhoods Index). How do we set up a food system which allows people to make their own food choices. We need people that can speak to those things.
- Peggy - diversity and different areas covered as inclusively as possible.
- Leslie - local governments in small towns/rural counties aren't engaged. Would like smaller local governments involved so they can see what's going on.
- Betty -
- Liz - farmers, distributor
- Gini - will include various sectors of food system, stakeholders in food councils, and balance of rural and urban county reps

2. **Food Council Accomplishments** - Community Food Strategies created this 2016 NC Food Council Accomplishments wheel based on a national model from the Food Policy Network.

Was this document valuable to you or your food council and should we do it again? If so, in what format would be most useful to display the accomplishments?

- Liz - like it!, good that it's in categories
- Betty - important to celebrate success, and this is one way to do it
- Leslie - can't see it, so no comment
- Peggy - like it, difficult to read - small text, heading/categories are good
- Marianne - great to have it all together, would be helpful to have it easier to read

Community Food Strategies Updates

- [Statewide Food Council Gathering](#) - November 30-December 1; Early bird [registration is open](#); Scholarships for food council members available, contact your food council leaders to apply.
 - Lodging - [info](#)
 - Who will be joining? - Tammy, Leslie, Betty, Liz
 - Insight Team from 2014 Gathering (small group that stayed together throughout the whole summit, working collectively on food council issues) - Will we do this again?

- Organizational Structure for Food Council Webinars - upcoming 4-part series of 30-min webinars
- [Public Forum Toolkit and Video](#) available, highlighting 3 food council experiences with hosting public forums
- Char-Meck Advocacy Training - more than 50 attended. Interest in the Triad?
- Micro-grant applications for food councils will be announced soon.

Next Steps

- Doodle for next call in Q4 will be sent out.

Closing

- Leslie - great to talk to like-minded folks doing similar work
- Betty - looking forward to working with all of you,
- Marianne - great, will send out the tiki-toki to google group
- Liz - great to have these calls, helps keep us accountable
- Gini - Thank you all for being here!