

Marin Food Policy Council
 Meeting Notes
 August 20, 2019
 HHS Wellness Campus, 3240 Kerner Blvd,
 San Rafael

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2019, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the HHS campus, Room 110

Attendance:

*** = Voting**

members

	Alexandra Danino, SF-Marine Food Bank*		Madeline Hope, West Marin Waste Education*
X	Bonnie Nielsen, UCCE		Marv Zauderer, ExtraFood.org
	Bonny White, West Marin Com Services*	X	Melanie Raquel, Marin Housing Authority
X	Bruce Richard, Envi. Forum of Marin		Miguel Villarreal, Novato USD*
	Casey Poldino, Zero Waste Marin*		Paula Freeman, Covia
	Cathryn Couch, CERES	X	Reba Meigs, HHS Public Health*
X	Elaini Negussie, HHS Nutrition Wellness		Steve Schwartz, Interfaith Sus Food Collaborative*
X	Felicia Chavez, Systems Thinking Marin		Susan Lopes, Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce
	Gueidi Beltran, WIC*		Susan Martinelli, WIC
	Heather Bettini, CAM		Terrie Green, Marin City Comm. Services District*
	Janet Brown, AllStar Organics		
X	Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE*		<i>Guests:</i>
	June Farmer, Marin City CX3*	X	Ellen Baxter, Aging Action Initiative
	Kathy Carver, ExtraFood.org*	X	Maggie Gori, Catholic Charities
X	Kathy Koblick, HHS Public Health	X	Wendy Tobiasson, citizen
X	Lauren Klein, Comm. & School Gardens		
X	Liana Orlandi, Ag. Institute of Marin*		
	Lorenzo Cordova, BOS*		
	Lori Davis, Sanzuma*		
	Madelene McCann, Marin Child Care Council		

Welcome and Announcements – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- 9/12 from 6-9pm: Food Bank facilities tour
- 9/10: Marin City Job and Resource Fair
- 8/30: West Marin School event with Dolores Huerte
- North Bay Jobs with Justice - raise minimum wage to \$15/hr. working on Novato City Council, discussion on 8/27 at/after 6pm, email city council from Novato City Council website
- List of upcoming online systems thinking training courses – see Felicia
- 10/23 from 9am-3pm 34th Annual Marin Senior Fair on senior topics
- Detect and Connect workshop designed for people who engage with older adults to offer a dialog to help recognize mental illness and dementia, facilitators can bring workshop to you
- Maggie: gardening, cooking, pe workshops around the Bay Area, including Pickleweed Park, looking to expand into other Marin communities
- 9/17 from 10:30-2:30 Senior Garden Tour, meet and return to HHS campus, tour includes: Mackey Terrace in Novato, Bennett House in Fairfax, and The Redwoods in MV

- Envi Forum of Marin annual class beginning in three weeks, recommended
- 8/26: 3rd route of Rollin Route mobile market launched (primarily older adult routes); PR 12:30-1:30, SGV Community Center 2:30-3:30
- 9/24 from 10am-1pm: AIM will be hosting a tour of Green Gulch Tour for ambassadors who work with AIM on the Rollin Route, few spots available, email liana@agriculturalinstitute.org
- Paula:

Local Policy Panel – Kathy Koblick, HHS Public Health, Jenay Cottrell, HHS Aging & Adult Services, Maria Jose Diaz and Willie Herrera, HHS Public Assistance

Goals: Increase understanding of federal, state, and local policy work, knowing that local policies are a good level for food policy councils to work. Understand our local policy landscape, more effectively engage with local policy government.

- Structure of HHS and HEAL overview: [presentation by Kathy Koblick](#); goal: No one in Marin will go hungry
- Aging & Adult Services: 2 wings include adult protective services and in-home supportive services (MediCal). About 28% of Marin County is made up of people 60 and older. By 2030 at least 30% will be 60+, could be closer to 38%. What we do now for our current aging populations will prepare us for the next generations. Right now the largest proportion of older adults is 60-69, but that will increase. 31% live at home, 19% of 65+ live below federal poverty line. Marin Area Agency on Aging (about 650 around the country) gets federal funding from Older Americans Act funds, money is distributed to CA and administered by CA Dept of Aging – highly regulated. Serve around 5000 people a year through about 15 programs (contracted out with other orgs). Focus on serving minorities and people who are geographically isolated. Qualification regulations come from the state; home delivered and congregate meal programs do not depend on income level. 457-INFO (information services) will educate people on regs. Issue isn't owning a car but if they are driving it or not. *need further clarification. Partially a funding issue – need more funding to expand programs. Talk to AAA first for clarification before sending letter to Commission on Aging. Nutrition programs: congregate and home delivered. Congregate meals: 18000 meals a year and Home delivered: 78000 meals a year. Contract with a registered dietician to make sure meals meet nutrition guidelines.
- Policy: going to be getting more \$ from the General Fund from the state for 18 months, with potential for renewal – looking to add a congregate meal site with the money, may also be able to expand the home delivered meal program. CA Master Plan for Aging proposed by Governor Newsom to streamline all the services that have been fragmented under one umbrella. What can we do? Speak at public comment time at commission on aging meetings, contact public officials.
- Public Assistance: 6 CalFresh eligibility workers here at HHS. Beginning June 2019 SSI recipients are eligible for CalFresh as well – applications have more than doubled as they serve a new population. Call center in Novato challenges: interview people if they call the call center, but the center isn't adequately staffed to process the applications which has resulted in a high number of abandoned calls (phone or in-person conversation is a requirement of the program). Staff attending mental health training to be better able to serve certain groups of people. Public Assistance has been working with public schools: provide info on CalFresh at back to school events at Davidson and Pickleweed (kids will be

on free and reduced lunch also). People were not as interested this year as past years, worried/confused about the public charge announcement. Place-based eligibility: works at Canal Alliance on Tuesdays (coinciding with food bank) doing intake and processing applications as a one stop shop in a safe space for clients. Same services at the Marin City Health and Wellness Center every other week because folks are more geographically removed there.

- Common policy barriers or opportunities in your work? AAA lot of the policy is highly regulated (Older Americans Act) and connected to funding (barrier). Decline in funding for NEOP has been drastic (barrier), leads to a struggle to fund partners.
- How can MFPC work with you? Keep watch for 2020 ballot looking for money in prevention – ballot measure on 2 cent soda tax. Could MFPC pilot ‘weighted funding’ to see how to work together on funding if we all have similar goals. ABOD implementation starting in September – be prepared. Work with orgs who are dissecting and disseminating information to dispel stigma and fear (may misunderstand after a quick news sound byte). PUBLIC CHARGE... there is an internal Public Charge Workgroup, need to learn more... eligibility gap is only going to increase due to fear, federal programs will be less helpful and less used. What’s the strategy for that? Public Charge workgroup update in September agenda (Alexandra Danino).

Policy Updates – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- Discussion about Farmers Market Week Resolution – last month adopted and co-sponsored resolution on Farmers Market week with AIM. Beginning to see the vision for all farmers markets to accept CalFresh... can we get to that goal a year from now? In that goal, HHS and others mocked up a draft flier, circulated for MFPC review and feedback. Strategies looking ahead to Farmers Market Week in August 2020 to create buy-in for all farmers markets to accept CalFresh? Learning we can do from other counties of a structure we could work towards? EBT can be used for anything at the market, market match tokens can only be used on fresh fruits and veggies (market pays producer at the end).
- Raise Minimum Wage Novato City Council – members present support MFPC moving forward on this, will bring to the Steering Committee to write a letter of support.

Breakout Group Reflection & Planning

- Check in and plan next steps for next meeting (reiterate policy opportunities)
- **Topic 1: Climate Change** = Discuss next steps to plan September meeting
- **Topic 2: Supply Chain** = Identify action items and next steps to plan October meeting

Council Business – Julia Van Soelen Kim

New member presentation: Melanie Raquel, Marin Housing Authority

- *Tabled until September meeting*

Closing – Julia Van Soelen Kim

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the HHS campus, Room 110