

Attendance:

Kathy Gaskin – (Healthy Adams County)
Reza Djalal – (Adams County Farmers Market Manager)
Sarah Weigle – (GIS Specialist, AC Office of Planning and Development)
Ryan Prater – (Community Engagement Associate CPF)
Anya Hanna – (Gleaning Network)
Tammy Hoff – (Gettysburg College/Campus Kitchen)
Yeimi Gaglardi – (Wellspan)
Grace Bushway – (VISTA)
Jenn Eckerson – (Adams County Housing Authority)
Nick Malone – (Gettysburg Area School District)

Minutes:

The November meeting minutes were approved.

Strategic Planning:

April 5th 9am – noon, Location TBD

Kathy proposed an in-person strategic planning meeting during the regularly scheduled April 2023 meeting and extend the meeting to 3-4 hours with food. Location to be determined. Reza suggested inviting other stakeholders (organizations, individuals) to discuss future of the FPC. Kathy indicated that as long as we are intentional about invites, the more the merrier. With an in-person meeting we may get more folks, anyway. This happened with the last in-person meeting.

Committee Updates:

- Dashboard/website – Sarah
 - No new updates
 - Google Permissions need to be discussed

- Policy – Ryan
 - Have not met since last full meeting; not much new legislatively
 - Federal Level
 - Senate – Democrats gain control and a bit more influence; Fetterman win means two democratic senators from PA; could have PA representatives on the Agricultural committee
 - House – Thin majorities post-election (222 R, 213 D), so not much legislating or major reform; expect the normal proceedings: Farm Bill (hopefully more bipartisan, so moves easier), investigations; Democrats will likely focus on implementation of programs approves before elections
 - State Level
 - Shapiro as governor – Consensus builder who wants to get things done; will touch topics (natural gas, school choice, etc.) that Wolf wouldn't
 - Senate – Republican majority, though Democrats gained a seat
 - House – Democrats flipped for control for the first time since 2010 (102-101), but a few seats will open up for special elections soon
 - Farm bill
 - Reassessed every 5 years, 12 different titles; needs to pass by Sept. 30, 2023

- Title 4: Nutrition – Includes SNAP, CSFP (Senior boxes), TFAP
- SNAP
 - Republicans not pleased with SNAP increases during COVID.
 - There is an active discussion about emergency allotments and how to handle things at the end of the official public health emergency.
 - Talking about access, ex: for able bodied adults with no dependents only 3mo allowed. Potential discussion about little things, like hot foods
- TFAP
 - Farm Bill sets authorized spending maximum, but it is not always utilized through appropriation process. Advocates pushing to raise ceiling of appropriated funds
- Senior food boxes
 - Program with potential, but state/national enrollment very low
 - Frequent complaints about type of food, weight of boxes, lack of variety
 - There is a discussion about eliminating the program and just bumping seniors' SNAP benefit amounts to give them more spending choice/power
- Emailing makes a difference!
 - The Congressional Management Foundation suggests that as few as 10 (personal) messages can sway opinion; even more effective if received within short period of time
 - Members of congress receive 100k+ emails/year, sorted by staff/interns. Need to get through that layer, so use contacts you have!
 - Members of Congress have some flexibility in terms of party-line voting for the less controversial issues
 - Given all that info, might be good idea to use Policy Committee as time for coordinate emails on identified issues
- John Joyce not the most responsive, but could be a good connection if we keep trying
 - Not on Agriculture Committee, but could forward information to them
 - There's potential for discussion on nutrition and Double-Up SNAP bucks; some national coalitions have researched double up and found that it incentivizes buying more vegetables/fruits
- Local Food Guide
 - Meeting with Kathy & Sarah this week
 - Sarah created a separate brochure for pantries and food programs to pare down size of the food guide
 - Reza suggested highlighting SNAP doubling at the market
 - Anya suggested adding Gleaning (will send copy)
- Outreach – Yeimi
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 - Unable to coordinate the podcast appearance with Torren Ecker; will try to ask in-person next year
 - Sat. Dec. 10th: Holiday Family Outreach

- Goal is share info and get FVB sign-ups

- Avenues for next year:
 - **Healthcare providers** currently unaware of programs, though their staff may be familiar. Outreach specifically targeted for providers in Latino communities (Family First; Keystone Farmworker Project)
 - **Upper Adams School District** is restarting their wellness taskforce; Yeimi was invited to participate in a subcommittee and can act as connector to information about local programs
- No update on “How the Other Half Eats” yet; will touch base with library
- Rotary scheduled for March; Kathy will double check
 - Yeimi will make presentation

- Food Programs – Kathy & Grace
 - Meeting for 12/22 canceled; next meeting in January
 - Fruit and Veggie Bucks:
 - 340+ people signed up, which is an increase from last year
 - Starting to slow, but still have room to add
 - Beth processing about 300 FVB surveys, inputting into spreadsheet
 - Should have update on pre-survey data in February
 - Piloting text-based post-survey for feedback at end of the year
 - To sign up, a name, address, phone number (cell preferred), and Kennies card # are needed.
 - Healthy Options:
 - Continuing conversation to update guidelines for admittance and continued participation (ex: upper income: 300% FPIG)
 - Involving Community Leaders in the discussion for additional perspective
 - Still looking for a part-time coordinator to manage the families and keep up with the County vouchers
 - Must be bilingual
 - Grace will share position description once finished
 - Megan Shreve to ask her bilingual staff

Member Updates

- Kathy:
 - Light Up the Night – December 16th | 5:45pm
 - Gettysburg School District and Presbyterian Church
 - A brief walk followed by a series of presentations at the church in response to a recent suicide at the school; opportunity for community to gather and heal
- Anya Hanna:
 - Empty Bowls – April 21 4-7pm Gettysburg College, Plank Gym
 - Putting together Events Committee now
- Reza:
 - Pop-Up Market: last market in the lot space
 - In the Rec Park by Mothers’ Day at the latest

- Please let people know the market is moving!
- Jen:
 - We have an article in the Gettysburg Times today! We are offering \$500 bonuses to our housing voucher landlords when they sign a new rental contract with us. We still have funds available for security deposits and for down payments for first-time homeowners.
- Sarah:
 - County opened [broadband survey](#) (English and Spanish; online and hard copies)
 - Includes information FCC broadband maps and how to submit individual challenge. If submitting, copy her office
 - Food Recovery Infrastructure Grant now open
 - Up to \$50k for purchase of fridges, box trucks, dollies, etc.
 - Closes March 17th, 2023
- Yeimi
 - Vida Charter School Fundraiser
 - 60%+ of students identified as low income
 - Collecting gift cards to distribute to families
 - Also doing a winter clothing drive/distribution
 - Dancing with the Stars

Next Meeting: January 4, 2023 @ 8:30 am via Zoom