

Civic Engagement Committee Minutes

1. 8.13

OLLI Rm #207

OUR MISSION: *To identify, define and develop a sustainable plan of action which addresses signature social issues in Greater Asheville that engage and provide a significant volunteer experience among the OLLI membership community.*

I. CALL TO ORDER AND MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Culler, Laurel Jernigan, Chuck Rosenblum and Dave Scherck.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Chuck shared a web article from Feeding America (see attached)

B. Chuck announced that the Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council was meeting today with City Council proposing a resolution to support the following goals:

1. Improve the quality of life for those in need by increasing access to food for people who experience food insecurity;

2. Continue growing a robust regional food economy by increasing production and consumption of regional food and food products;

3. Strive to meet all nutritional needs of the community with regionally produced foods;

4. Work to prepare for short-term food emergencies and long-term food security; and

5. Collaborate with regional partners to achieve all food policy goals.

C. Chuck recommended the book “Growing Up Empty” by Loretta Schwartz Nobel. It is available in the library.

D. Laurel announced that the Call for Action website was up and can be found at www.olliasheville.com/civic-engagement. Information on Call for Action will be added as available.

III. WINTER SYMPOSIUM – CALL TO ACTION

A. Winter Quarter Symposium will be held Tuesday, February 12 from 2:30 – 4:00 in room 206. Cindy Threlkeld, Executive director of MANNA FoodBank, will be the main speaker.

B. Panel Discussants and Corresponding Projects

Discussion centered around the idea of having only 1 named project, so as not to offer too many options for people attending this first symposium. The following projects will be offered:

1. Asheville’s City Gardens – presenter would be Gordon Smith, member of the City Council and Food Policy Council. CEC volunteers are being sought

to coordinate this effort. Judy Mattox's name was suggested and Chuck will follow up with her. Any other volunteers would also be appreciated.

2. MANNA Packs – presenter would be Alisa Hixson, Dir. of Communications and Marketing, MANNA FoodBank . Carol Culler and Sarah Reincke have volunteered to coordinate this effort.

3. There was no report on the 3rd project from ABCCM. However, a day after the meeting, Chuck submitted the following information: The ABCCM volunteer segment will entail hosting meal(s) in a women's shelter, including a brief description of ABCCM's mission and initiatives. Presenter and volunteers will be determined later.

C. Chuck requested that the deadline for all materials be sent to him by January 17. He will be out of town for 3 weeks after that.

IV. FOLLOWING SYMPOSIUMS

A. Dates have been set for the 3 following symposiums: April 9, June 11, Sept 10, 2013. Discussion was about whether the meetings should be held at 2:30 or 4:00. No decision was made and the topic will be discussed at next meeting.

B. Topics for Symposiums were also discussed and the following were suggested: Childhood Obesity, Childhood Nutrition, Childhood Malnutrition, Farmer Markets, Sustainable Agriculture, Advocacy, Food Waste, Nutrition for the Aged, Nutrition and Wellness. No decision was made but will be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Possible Speakers were discussed as it was thought that a well-known, energetic speaker would draw a bigger crowd. Ameena Bataada, UNC and Brandon Anderson, Waynesville MannaShare were mentioned.

D. Other possibilities for the symposium structure might include:

1. the larger picture – Winter Quarter
2. University Resources – Ameena Bataada
3. Local/community efforts – Brandon Anderson
4. Round Table Discussions

More discussion is needed on all these topics.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Laurel will send out the preliminary flyer to committee

B. Laurel will work with Marketing Sub-Committee to conduct marketing throughout January

C. Secretary will produce a list of CEC members, their phone numbers and email addresses

D. CEC member is needed to attend the OLLI Center Steering Council's Monthly meetings and report on CEC's activities. Meetings are the 4th Thursdays at 4:00 pm. Any volunteers ????

- V. NEXT MEETING February 5 at 4:15
 - A. Finalize 2/12/13 agenda
 - B. Discussion of topics for following 3 symposiums

- VI. ADJOURN 5:35

Attachment: Feeding America

Submitted by Carol Culler for Sarah Reincke, Secretary