Humboldt Food Policy Council

Meeting Announcements and Speakers’ Summary
October 16, 2012
Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center
5:30 – 7:30 PM

Announcements:

CalFresh proposals are due at the end of January.

Susan Ornelas is donating twelve of her farm raised turkeys for the Jacoby Creek Land Trust fundraiser dinner, Awesome Autumn Feast, on November 11, 2012. Twelve restaurants will each create a different dish with their turkey. Tickets are $35.

Ann Anderson from Locally Delicious stated after 3 years, Lunchbox Envy is going to press tomorrow!

The Redwood Region Economic Development Commission is slated to receive $70,000 to establish an aquaculture center in Samoa from the Headwaters Fund. First phase will be land-based aquaponics and putting together an Aquaculture Advisory Group. Please contact Dawn Elsbree at delsbree@co.humboldt.ca.us if interested.

UC Cooperative Extension just hired staff for nutrition education program. They envision tying in with locally grown food and Food for People.

Sara Mosser gave a brief update on the food waste collection and composting that is up and running. She is interested in involving more Eureka restaurants, so send them her way at smosser12@gmail.com

Co-Op is hosting Genetic Roulette at Arcata Theater Lounge on November 2, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Themes include health issues and food sovereignty with regard to Prop 37.

The Small Business Development Center is providing a workshop on Agricultural Labor Laws – including laws on internships and apprentices - on Friday, November 30, 2012 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at UC Cooperative Extension, 5630 S. Broadway.

Angie Schwab announced spending money locally on Humboldt made products is positive economic development. Humboldt Made will launch Go Local on November 1, 2012. She has applications for other interested businesses. Visit www.HumboldtMade.com

Communities in Motion is holding an event on Saturday, October 27 2012 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Aquatic Center in Eureka. Hear about local successes and learn new skills to make our neighborhoods healthy and vibrant. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Please call Humboldt County DHHS Public Health at 441-5545 to RSVP.
On Wednesday, October 24, 2012 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Eureka High lecture hall there will be a showing of Weight of the Nation and discussion with community engagement.

Connie Stewart was elected to Redwood Acres Board of Directors.

Speakers' Summary

For those of you who weren’t able to join us at the last Food Policy Council Meeting, and for more background for those who did attend, CCRP is bringing speakers into the community to help inform some of the goals that were identified over the past two years at the Food Policy Council.

We heard from guest speakers Diana Abellera and Bob Corshen of CAFF at the Food Policy Council meeting. They addressed the goal of increasing Farm-to-Institution sales, one of the goals that received a lot of support from the Food Policy Council. Diana has experience working with institutional buyers to build demand and create systems for local purchasing, while Bob is an expert on the supply side and various value chain models.

CCRP is providing funding to CAFF to take a broad look at the lay of the land to identify ways to get more fresh locally-grown foods in schools and to improve the connection between school meals and local farmers. Between now and March, local CAFF staff Michelle Wyler (michelle@caff.org) and Erin Derden-Little (erin@caff.org) are taking a lead on looking at ways to overcome the barriers and challenges in transporting and distributing local produce to institutions, especially schools, throughout Humboldt County in a sustainable way. During the project, Diana and Bob will continue to provide technical assistance and ideas of what has worked in other communities throughout the state.

Nationwide, communities are looking at value chains tool to create sustainable farm-to-institution programs. More and more USDA is asking for value chain information in their grant programs.

Please contact Michelle or Erin if you have information to contribute to their research. If you have a project that you would also like to discuss with Bob or Diana, please contact Michelle and Erin to arrange a time to speak to them.