

Healthy Franklin County Nutrition Task Force
Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce
Garden Workshop

Minutes – October 12, 2016

In attendance: Kari Coleman (Laurel Life/Manito), Barb Houpt (YMCA), Guy Shaul (Boro of Chambersburg), Noel Purdy (Chambersburg Chamber), Jay Eury (SCCAP), Chris Mayer (Wilson College), Amy Hicks, (United Way of Franklin County)

Committee Leadership: Noel Purdy and Kari Coleman will co-facilitate the committee.

Mapping of Gardens: A sub group of the committee has been working to obtain community garden profiles to create an inventory and map. Elizabeth Grant has been updating the data files. Noel sent the profile to Chambersburg Area School District which was circulated and filled out. The committee reviewed the working list and added Quincy Village, which has 20 plots. The committee suggested that Elizabeth update the inventory and send it around again to the committee before our next meeting.

Community Garden Interest Survey: Noel shared a draft of the survey which was edited by the committee to remove demographic data, add a question about “what street do you live on” which can be tied out to census data if needed at a later time. A question was added to ask if the participant needed any assistance/help with an existing garden. A question was added that asks for contact information and name if they wish to participate in the project in the future. The survey has been translated into Spanish. An outreach strategy was discussed with the goal of rolling the survey out in the next few weeks through targeted canvassing of neighborhoods that could benefit the most from community gardens, including ward three and four of Chambersburg Borough, utilizing volunteers, college students and service groups to assist. The group also discussed the idea of volunteers using their personal devices to collect survey electronically and/or setting up hotspots at high target locations. Entities who can help with distribution include Franklin County Housing Authority, Boys and Girls Club, Chamber of Commerce, Network Ministries, Churches, YMCA, SCAAP, Wilson College, Scout Troops, United Way, etc. Guy Shaul also requested a final version of the survey to obtain a cost estimate for a mailer. The survey will also be distributed via social media. The committee would like to wrap-up outreach by the end of the year

Community Film Night – Jay reported that the community garden film night panel went well with nearly 60 folks in attendance however the turn out was less than usual for this event. Several groups had the opportunity to network and learn about different projects/resources in the area.

Resources List – Kari is working on a resources guide/list to share with stakeholder groups and garden enthusiasts. The committee will be sent a link to check off resources.

Next Steps:

- Noel to edit surveys and resend to committee for distribution to their respective networks (English and Spanish)
- Elizabeth to update inventory and send to committee for review/input
- Noel/Amy/Kari to contact service groups, Wilson College students, Churches to organize targeted canvassing of high priority neighborhoods.
- Guy to obtain cost estimate for mailer with paid postage for return
- Kari to lead resource guide/list project; share link with committee

Next Meeting: December 13 at 1:30 in the Sentry Trust Building (785 5th Ave) 1st Floor Board Room