

Nechako Valley Food Network
Regular Meeting: Monday, May 10, 2010
CNC Room 2 – 109

In Attendance: Maryanne Walker, Andrew Beuzer, Michelle Roberge, Lisa Burgener

Called to Order: 7:13 PM

1. Lisa will continue to be the note-taker for the next year
 2. Minutes reviewed from April Meeting
- one change. All but \$25 was reimbursed to Maya for the Fresh Movie. **All agreed that Maya should be reimbursed the final \$25 for the Fresh Movie from NVFN funds.**
3. Thus . . . funds are 548.53 now. After reimbursement, they will be \$523.53.

Old Business

- a. Lynne Northrup. The wood issue has been solved
- b. Farmers Cooperative
 - it seems that the Feasibility Study from the Kamloops Heartlands Coop was not obtained (no word from Darlene yet)
 - Loraina Stephens has tentatively set the Farmers Cooperative HEAL chat for Wednesday, May 26th (evening)
 - Debbie Montgomery confirmed that CNC could arrange a room with a speaker phone for that meeting
 - one question re: interest in that chat/meeting will be on the telephone blurb for those people calling the producers re: directory. Thus, we will know who to contact re: the chat even if we have only a short notice about the chat
- c. HEAL chat: Community Garden Report
 - very informative. In particular, the following three gardens:
 - a. Hazelton Storytellers – Sustainable Backyards project
 - youth teams assist with building greenhouses and raised garden beds in backyards
 - demonstration/teaching garden is maintained by the Storytellers . . . do projects there in response to the questions of the backyard gardeners
 - market gardening (grow food to feed selves, trade, or to sell) different models for teaching money skills through gardening **Very Useful model . . . must follow up for more information**
 - b. **Victoria and Seventh Street (REAPS) Recycling Garden**
 - 'portable' garden
 - built in 'reuse' garbage containers on derelict lot
 - restaurants around the space compost food waste there
 - will get a tour of this garden with the Garden Tour Food Event in June (already asked Terri)**
 - c. Queensway Interagency Garden
 - Best Practises model in Canada
 - agencies sign a 'partnership agreement' (i.e. What each will provide)
 - after original start-up coordination . . . garden only costs about \$350 – 500/year to run
 - tools and seeds are shared. Garden as large groups . . . Some agencies may have more than one group gardening

great start-up gardening skills for vulnerable persons
We now have From Hand Out to Hand Up (A Guide to Agency Based Community Gardening) ask Lisa to view it.

Aim: Prince George Garden Tour (Interagency, Victoria and Seventh and one more 'regular garden') for Mid- Late June on a weekend. 20 people maximum. Lisa to coordinate with Prince George folks and with interested Vanderhoof (community garden) starters
*****Kandace Kerr is interested in assisting Vanderhoof with Community Garden start-up (She runs the community garden in Fort St. James)**
HEAL seed grants will be available in the Fall . . . not sure if we will have a plan together in time to apply or not . . . will aim for it.

Committee Reports:

1. Producer Directory Report

-discussed possible fee or membership fee –

decision: no fee (keep it as inclusive as possible)

-printing? Will ask at District of Vanderhoof. Wait for June 2nd Sponsorship Policy decision

-Who is included in the directory? Only big producers or everyone who has food?

Decision: everyone who has food. Different sections in directory and people choose which section they would like to be in .

-advertising – keep the space all the same size (producers and other adverts)

Phone Dialogue Draft discussed

-decided to ask producers if they would also like to be included on the online directory (add to dialogue)

-instead of requesting a copy of producer certification . . . we will give a FYI statement about food regulations and inspection requirements as well as Environmental Health Officer names and contact numbers for each producer contacted who is interested in marketing his/her product.. See NVFN website under the legal information to read a sample FYI statement.

Recruiting Producers for the Directory

-suggested that the Fort Fraser, Sinkut, and Clukus Cattlemen's Association be contacted as well as the Poultry Producers Association

-Michelle will create and print a poster for recruiting producers to the directory by Thursday, May 13th. Lisa will coordinate with Katimavik for posting the posters on Friday, May 14th

-Besides the usual places . . . posters will be sent by email and posted at the Country Locker (by Andrew) and at the Auctioneer (Churches . . . contact congregational liaisons – Lisa)

Michelle will include an advertisement for next year's directory on this summer's directory to recruit more producers for next year

Bulletin Board (May) Plight of the Honey Bee

-Michelle will write morsels and book review for posting next week (May 19th)

-Lisa will write recipe, producer profile, and gather photos

-Michelle will create a Food Events poster to advertise Jon's 'Day of the Honeybee' May 29th

show of Honeybees in the Coop Mall from 10 – 4 PM. Lisa will coordinate with Katimavik to post the Food Event posters.

June BB – agreed to promote the Farmer's Market which will open on Thursday, June 10th. Need to contact Karen for more information about times and other changes. Let Karen know about the webpage available for the Farmer's Market.

New Business

Sponsorship Policy will be finalized on June 2nd.

- NHCA to investigate its role with regards to the member groups
- NHCA to investigate other environmental groups and their policies regarding sponsorship

Andrew has agreed to be the new email administrator for the 5 month term – May – Sept.

Meeting Adjourned:

8:45 PM