



*Cultivating Community Food Security*

**November 2, 2012**

**NC AFP Regional Meeting**

**Yancey County, NC**

**Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
8:45am	Coffee and Pastries
9-9:15	Welcome, Introductions, Review of Agenda
9:15-9:30	Report from Michelle and Angel on overall AFP
9:30-9:40	Report from Dwight Smith on the Growing Power Conference
9:40-10am	Action Group Report Round Robin
10-10:45	Report from Shivaugn Rayl from CFSA about NC Food Policy
10:45-10:50	Break
10:50-11:20	Action Group Meeting/Discussion Time
11:20-11:35	Discussion of WNC Food Alliance
11:35-11:45	Closing Round <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action Group Report Round Robin</li> <li>• Decide on next meeting</li> <li>• Lunch</li> </ul>
11:45	TRACTOR tour (Tres Magner)

## **I. Welcome, Introductions and Review of Agenda**

### Attendees:

Angel Cruz (NCSU; AFP Management Team)  
Michelle Schroeder-Moreno (NCSU; AFP Management Team)  
Becky Dobosy (NCSU; AFP Research Assistant)  
Tres Magner (Yancey Cooperative Extension)  
Jimmi Buell (Polk Cooperative Extension)  
Shivaugn Rayl (Director of Sustainable Food NC, Carolina Farm Stewardship)  
Jenn Beck (Madison Cooperative Extension)  
Tracy Kunkler (Sims and Steele Consulting)  
Ross Young (Madison Cooperative Extension)  
Jen Waite (MANNNA Foodbank)  
Tim Richards (Community Foundation of Western North Carolina)  
Lynn Sprague (Polk Cooperative Extension)  
Bill Moretz (President, Watauga County Farmers Market)  
Dwight Smith (attendee at Growing Power National Conference)  
Cathy Hohenstein (Buncombe Cooperative Extension)  
John Hartom (DIG IN Community Garden)  
Bart Renner (Transylvania Cooperative Extension)  
Darcel Eddins (Bountiful Cities Project)  
Jana Bartleson (Toe River Community Health Department)

## **II. Report from Michelle and Angel on overall AFP**

### *A. AFP Management team from NC, VA, and WV met in October in VA*

- Management Team received training in Dynamic Self Governance (DSG)

### *B. Community Food Security Assessments (CFSA's)*

- We are collecting preliminary data for the CFSA's, which will be presented at the CFSA Community Conference estimated to be held in March. The CFSA data being gathered follows the community capitals framework.
- At this conference, we will determine the communities where the in depth assessments will take place.

### *C. Database/Foodscape*

- We are working on a database with a listing of all organizations working in food systems in the Appalachian regions of NC, VA, and WV. We plan to get this database online at the beginning of 2013.

### *Questions/Discussion:*

- *How do we keep such a database current and useful?*
  - o *Get a class that works on it every year*
  - o *House it within a university or Extension?*
- *Where should the maintenance folks be located?*
  - o *UNCA or App*

## **III. Dwight Smith report from attending the Growing Power Conference in September**

- Lots of inspiration and ideas – currently thinking how they can implement some of the Growing Power ideas here in the mountains

- Darcel brought up the idea of partnering with Growing Power and bringing Will Allen to WNC (one possible connection is through IFFS in Raleigh because they are current partners of Growing Power and both Angel and Jen Waite have contacts there)

#### **IV. Reports from Action Groups**

##### *A. Food Access*

- Still working on brochure to distribute through local foods agents about connecting local farmers to food banks
- Working to create "I grow to give" incentive program.
- They met with ASAP and the next step is how to do branding
- There is a meeting in January for all local food hubs and this may be one of the topics of discussion

##### *Questions/Comments:*

- *WNC Alliance for Gardens that Give*
- *Backyard Bow Pros*
- *Hunters for the Hungry*

##### *B. Intergenerational Education and Engagement*

- Finished a new elevator speech about their working group
- They are working to increase education on how to choose and prepare fresh foods
- One idea is to use successful examples, like a Middle School in Yancey County that has made local fresh food part of their mission, as models

##### *C. Food Policy and Advocacy*

- Shivaugn Rayl's (CFSA) presentation is substituting for the Policy and Advocacy Report

#### **V. Report from Shivaugn Rayl**

Shivaugn is currently going to as many community meetings as possible to learn about local policy needs and work to explain policy in a way that makes sense.

- Before the meeting, Shivaugn sent out surveys to members inquiring about the most pressing needs in the area and what people would like to see change in their communities.

##### *Results of most pressing needs:*

1. Meeting the needs of the food insecure (top result for WNC and this is different from what is often said in other parts of the state)
2. Growing demand for local food
  - Increasing local transportation
  - Increase living wage jobs (a need voiced throughout the Carolinas)
  - Nutrition/diet/chronic disease
  - GAPS trainings (most consistent need across Carolinas)

##### *Results of what people would like to see change:*

1. Accessibility of growers to market
  - Availability of EBT
  - Hours at farmers markets
2. Commitments from grocers, retailers, etc. (institutions) to buy local
3. GAPS certification for small farms
4. More young farmers

*Questions/Comments:*

- *MANNA gets lots of call from landowners looking for farmers to lease land*
- *Haywood County has good Ag Easement program*
- *We are missing lawyers and legal representatives in this group (Charlotte School of Law is working on a Food Law Center and could be a good connection)*

*Results of what resources are needed:*

1. Processing capacity and food hubs
2. Public Transportation
3. Strong network of food systems organizations
4. Small farmer training/GAPS
5. Beginning farmer support

**VI. Action Group Meeting/Discussion**

Notes from Action Group meetings are sent out to the different working group representatives

**VII. Discussion of WNC Food Alliance**

- Tracy Kunkler presented info about the WNC Food Alliance that is forming after a Dynamic Self Governance (DSG) training in August.
- There was interest in learning more about DSG from the group, with discussion of a possible training for the group the next year
- For more information about the WNC Food Alliance contact Tracy Kunkler:  
[tracy@simsandsteele.com](mailto:tracy@simsandsteele.com)

**VIII. Closing Round**

Next NC AFP meeting should be in late February or early March. Doodle Poll will be sent out to determine best date