

MEETING NOTES

Catawba County Farm & Food Sustainability Plan

Working Committee

April 2, 2013

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbara Beatty, Mike Burris, Jeff Carpenter, Jeff Elmore, Nathan Huret, Jeremy Lee, Dave McCart, Fred Miller and Der Xiong

STAFF PRESENT:

Mary George with Planning, Parks, and Development; Mary Furtado and Haley Kadish with County Managers Office

REVIEW & DISCUSSION OF COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mary informed the Committee that there were approximately 40 citizens total in attendance at the three community meetings held in early March. She reviewed the compiled comments received at the meetings and identified where some of these comments were already addressed in the Plan recommendations. The Committee agreed to make several changes which were not already incorporated into the Plan:

- Strategy 4C: Add interns to the list of entities that can assist with grant writing
- Strategy 6A: Add social media to advertise the availability of local foods
- Strategy 6C: Add the concept of a food festival which promotes local branded foods and educates the public about local foods
- Strategy 7D: Add sustainability groups to the list of available resources that can educate the public on local farming and garden best practices

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW & PLAN RECOMMENDATION

Mary handed out a copy of the complete draft Plan document and reviewed the sections within the Plan. It was suggested that an Executive Summary be included which incorporated the five general Plan categories presented at the community meetings.

With the changes to the recommendations as noted, a motion was made by Jeremy and seconded by Der to recommend adoption of the Plan to the Board of Commissioners. The motion was

unanimously approved. Mary informed the Committee that the Plan will be presented to the Board of Commissioners at its April 15 meeting and encouraged Committee members to attend.

PLAN PARTNERS

Mary Furtado informed the Committee that the loop needed to be closed with the partners and to inform them that the planning phase is ending and we are beginning the implementation phase. She asked the Committee members who met originally with the partners to again meet with them to finalize their commitment and work with them on the implementation tracking system. She also said they would inform the partners as to the Board of Commissioners meeting.

CLOSING

Mary informed the Committee that this would be their last formal meeting and thanked them for the commitment to the development of the County's Farm & Food Sustainability Plan. She believed that this was an excellent Plan that will engage many partners to help sustain agriculture and promote local foods in the County. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary George, Project Manager