



**CUMBERLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
FORT LIBERTY & CUMBERLAND COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

November 4, 2024, 6:00-7:30pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Shannon Gettings, Healthcare Representative
Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland County Co-Chair
Kenny Bailey, Local Government Representative
Joyce Adams, Higher Education
Roni Winston, Food Insecurity Representative
Beth Maynard, Cumberland County Schools
Melissa Pennington, Food Insecurity Representative*

MEMBERS ABSENT:

*Alexis McClain, Farming/Agriculture Representative
Shella Korch, Public Health Representative
Robert Elliott, Farming/Agriculture Representative*

STAFF PRESENT:

*Martina Sconiers-Talbert, Cumberland County Grant Manager
Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director
Latoya Bell, WIC Outreach Coordinator
Andrea Gonzalez-Vallejo, Ignite Intern*

Item 1. Call to Order:

Dr. Clifton Johnson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Approval of October Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: *Beth Maynard* motioned to approve October Regular Meeting Minutes with an amendment on Item 3a. The amendment will clarify the decision of the council to create an info sheet on where to get food/donate food for the holidays.

SECOND: *Roni Winston* seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval

Approval of November Agenda.

MOTION: *Roni Winston* motioned to approve the November Agenda.

SECOND: *Kenny Bailey* seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval

Item 2a. Action Items: Holiday Resource Guide

*Amy Lo, FPC Liaison
Andrea Gonzalez-Vallejo, Ignite*

Intern

- a. The working version of the Holiday Food Resource Guide was put together by *Amy Lo* and *Andrea Gonzalez-Vallejo* and posted on Basecamp. *Roni Winston* offered more resources to add from Cumberland County Schools and will forward them to either *Amy Lo* or *Andrea Gonzalez-Vallejo*.
- b. The guide will be posted to the Food Policy Council tab on the Cumberland County website.

Item 2b. Action Items: Extending Cooking/Nutrition Classes to the Recovery Center

Dr. Jennifer Green, Public Health Director

- a. *Tamra Morris* shared that nutrition education classes were added to the Recovery Resource Center. The classes aim to teach clients about chronic disease management, WIC/SNAP benefit use and best practices, and recipes. Classes will likely begin this month. *Tamra Morris* shared they are open to suggestions for class subjects and instructors. While the center is geared toward those going through recovery, anyone who can benefit from the classes are welcome. A calendar and more information about the classes can be found on the recovery center's website.
- b.

Item 3. Establishing Goals Discussion

Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland Co-Chair

- a. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* opened up the discussion to the FPC to brainstorm goals for the new year.
- b. *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* reminded the council that the project funded by the Joy Pope Memorial Grant, if awarded, will be one of the goals of the FPC next year.
- c. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* reflected on the missed meal vouchers project the FPC worked on earlier this year and how raising it as a concern helped soldiers and their families.
- d. *Roni Winston* brought up the major obstacle of transportation in the community. She was curious about whether the FPC can help connect families to services that already exist or help create a program that can address this need. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* pointed out that the Fayetteville Pedestrian Plan Steering Committee cares deeply about increasing convenience and safety for those who have limited access to transportation. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* and *Shella Korch* attend the meetings to offer a food insecurity perspective, but invite whoever wants to join.
- e. *Shannon Gettings* pointed out that the Instacart project for SNAP recipients is ongoing so it can help address transit needs. She also reflected on a need *Shella Korch* brought up a few meetings ago about the gap between the end of Summer Lunch Program and the start of school. The Sun Bucks were meant to cover the gap, but did not target as many families as the Summer Lunch Program did. *Roni Winston* agreed that the gap did need to be addressed and following up with the faith-based community to help will likely be the next steps.
- f. *Beth Maynard*, the Executive Director of Nutrition, has been making progress on this issue and has recently talked with a faith-based community about how they can help. She also discussed how distribution of EBT funds is right around the time Summer School Lunch ends and also helps to bridge the gap. The Sun Bucks program sometimes requires families to apply for the funds, so *Beth Maynard* hopes to increase awareness around the application in addition to where Summer Lunch is distributed so families can be prepared.
- g. *Beth Maynard* explained that 70 out of 86 Cumberland County Schools are enrolled in the Community Eligibility Provisions through the USDA that qualifies schools for free lunch. All school breakfasts are free. To offer free lunch at the remaining 16 schools, much more funding would be required from the local government.



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- h. *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* reminded the FPC that recruitment is still a goal since there are vacancies on the council. A new intern may be coming aboard soon to assist with FPC activities.

Item 5. Conclusion

Clifton Johnson, Cumberland Co-Chair

- a. Introduction of Visitors
- b. Public Comment
- c. Announcements
 - i. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* called for the FPC to make December about recruitment and increase efforts to fill the vacancies.

ADJOURN

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Monday, December 2, 2024 6-7:30pm

@ Cumberland County Public Health Department
(1235 Ramsey St, 3rd Floor Conference Room)