

Rural Food Access WG (RFAWG) Monthly Meeting – NOTES

March 17, 2015

Agenda:

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Presentation: Farmers Market Metrics. Co-presenters: (1) Darlene Wolnik, (2) Carmen Byker Shanks, (3) Darcy Freedman. See separate attached files for slides.

- Contact Info for presenters:
 - Darlene Wolnik: darlene@farmersmarketcoalition.org
 - Carmen Byker Shanks: carmen.byker@montana.edu
 - Darcy Freedman: daf96@case.edu

3. Update on NOPREN working groups, website, other changes (Stephanie): Possible switch in conference call technology to GoToMeeting?

- Melissa Akers: For NOPREN monthly meeting, they are transitioning to GoToWebinar. For larger calls, they're using GoToWebinar in order to include more participants. It also allows screen sharing of presentations, surveys of audience, etc. They also have GoToMtg capacity for groups of 25 participants or less. It doesn't require pre-registration or un-muting, thus allowing easier dialogue. It's available to any working group. Melissa can provide account info and easy training. We can try it for a month if we want. It seems like the call is working fine for now. We don't want to add too many layers of complexity.
 - Next steps: *RFAWG will stay with the conference call line. If in the next couple months if people feel strongly about switching, we can try it out.*
- A new NOPREN working group is the Hunger Safety group. *Contact Melissa Akers if interested in joining (Melissa.Akers@ucsf.edu).* The meeting time is not solidified, but probably 4th Monday of month at 9am Pacific.

4. Local Economies Subgroup Update (Marilyn) [*standing agenda item*]

- Follow up on grant opportunities: A small group met to talk about AFRI grant opportunities. A grant for rural food economy development seemed best to pursue questions set forth in lit review paper in American Journal of Entrepreneurship. If folks are interested in, *email Marilyn and she will include names for next call March 25.* Carmen Byker and Lisa Bailey Davis expressed interest in child obesity grants. Marilyn is planning to follow up with them. Laura Kettel-Khan mentioned a grant that is combined EPA, USDA, DOT, CDC, Delta Regional Authority, and Appalachian Regional Commission. Multi-site, comprehensive approach to improving local food systems and local economies. A cohort of 26 communities participating in the grant might make good setting for doing further studies. *MS is interested*

in talking with LKK further about this, can set up a call to talk with her if others are interested too.

5. Retail Subgroup Update (Stephanie): Discussion on future of subgroup

- We were considering forming a retail subgroup among RFAWG, but in broader NOPREN group they formed a Healthy Food Retail working group. It will be a joint working group with Healthy Eating Research (RWJF).
 - *Next steps: Contact Melissa Akers if interested in joining Healthy Food Retail Working Group. Email: Melissa.Akers@ucsf.edu*

6. Future presentation topics (Stephanie): See attached file for list of possible future topics/presenters.

- *Demia Wright recommended that RFAWG consider pursuing communication strategies that can be presented to states/counties/communities as technical assistance, webinars, etc. We can present cutting edge rural food access research to others.*
- Demia also described the focus areas of CDC grantees. CDC just came out with the Healthier Food Retail Action Guide (<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/state-local-programs/healthier-food-retail.html>). She said that CDC grantees predominantly focus on retail. Corner stores (varies in rural areas). State and local public health action (funded out of Diabetes and Heart Disease section), that includes other food outlets like grocery stores and food banks (food banks are newer focus for CDC. There is a School Health branch. Others in division work with Early care and education. All grantees working on food service guidelines. Farmers markets grantees in 19 states.
- *Next steps: Please think about future speakers and send ideas!*

7. Other announcements and updates (All) [standing agenda item]

- *Next RFAWG call will be Tuesday April 21, 2:30 EST/11:30 PST. The presenter will be Rebecca Baran-Rees, on the MoGro mobile grocery store program in rural New Mexico.*
- Great news! The literature review has been accepted for publication in *Preventing Chronic Disease*. Reference: **Nutrition-Related Policy and Environmental Strategies to Prevent Obesity in Rural Communities: A Systematic Review of the Literature, 2002–2013**. Larissa Calancie, PhD(c); Jennifer Leeman, DrPH; Stephanie B. Jilcott Pitts, PhD; Laura Kettel Khan, PhD; Sheila Fleischhacker, PhD, JD; Kelly R. Evenson, PhD; Michelle Schreiner, MSN, RN; Carmen Byker, PhD; Clint Owens, MSN, RN; Jared McGuirt, MPH; Ellen Barnidge, PhD, MPH; Wesley Dean, PhD; Donna Johnson, PhD, RD; Jane Kolodinsky, PhD; Emily Piltch, MPH; Courtney Pinard, PhD; Emilee Quinn, MPH; Lauren Whetstone, PhD; Alice Ammerman, DrPH, RD