

Healthy Roots Collaborative Advisory Committee Meeting
March 12, 2020 – 1pm to 2:45pm
FCIDC

Attendance: Brad Docheff, Carol Stata, Emily Alger, Tim Smith, Bethany Remmers, Koi Boynton
 Not in attendance: Robert Ostermeyer, Denise Smith, Nina Hansen, Rachel Huff

Goals:

- Introduce Brad
- HRC Events Discussion
- HRC Program metrics review

Times	Agenda Item	Action
1:00-1:45	Welcome & Introductions	Koi will send Brad HRC publications, reports and plans. Koi will work on a more formal HRC history timeline.
<p>Notes: Introductions all around. Welcome Brad Docheff. Brad joins HRC as a NRPC Commissioner. Brad is also the Town Manager of Fairfax. Prior to Fairfax position, Brad worked at CVOEO in Burlington for what is now Feeding Chittenden. The group is excited to have Brad on board.</p> <p>Hall Home Place update on transition: Carol reported that they have sold their equipment to a new Maine ice cider company. Carol's last meeting with HRC will be in June. Based on previous discussion, Emily and Carol are looking to fill the vacant seat with an Islands producer. They will keep us up to date with their recommendations.</p> <p>Tim inquired about a Franklin County producer and it is possible to add two new seats – as we have two food/farm businesses identified in committee membership in the Rules of Procedure.</p>		
1:45 – 2:00	Event Ideas on the table	Koi will cancel workshops based on SU response to Covid-19
<p>Notes: HRC does have 3 curriculum trainings scheduled for April. We will continue with holding these workshops until the schools make a call as to how they are dealing with Covid-19. The question of program and financial impacts did come up. HRC and SHLT have an April check-in with VAAFM regarding the USDA grant, we will discuss how we deal with possible cancellations during the two-year grant term. Keep going forward but keep up to date with things at the SU level. Let's not serve food but ask folks to bring snacks.</p> <p>To implement our small gathering concept Koi has proposed business pairing tasting events. Small scale with possible ticket purchase that we treat like IGT – 70% to producer, 30% to HRC. Let's keep working on this but not scheduling anything at this time.</p>		
2:00 – 2:30	HRC Program metrics – please hand out* review prior to meeting	Koi will edit packet

Notes: Everyone is excited about the new program packet and that it can be used as individual program outreach. It does have some edits that need to be made and the committee has provided feedback in meeting and will follow up over email.

FCIDC will be sharing it at their board meeting.

It was used to present to NMC. NMC will be including HRC donation in their FY'21 budget request. This will need to make it through the budgeting process. The final decision will not be until Fall of 2020, when it is approved by the Green Mountain Care Board.

2:30– 2:45	Funding update & next meeting agenda	Catherine will be checking in with lawyer Koi will follow up on what it means to be a stand-alone 501c3 for HRC and if we should move forward with obtaining an EIN. Koi and Emily will connect regarding B&J grant.
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Notes: The Northwest Regional Foundation is not serving the purpose of a 501c3 as we had anticipated. The Foundation is a 509a3 and we are getting turned down to submit applications – Clif Bar and National Life. These were smaller grants in the \$1,000 to \$5,000 range but those small grants were in our fundraising plan to make up match requirements and provide diversity within our revenue stream. Catherine is checking in with the NRPC lawyer to clarify the 509a3 status and how it relates to charitable contributions.

There is a Ben & Jerry's Economic Justice grant due April 29th that we would like to go after. SHLT could be the applicant on behalf of HRC. Emily and Koi will follow up to see if we can make this happen. That grant is \$25,000.

Reach out to Lisa at Ben & Jerry's directly. Talk with Emily about applying through SHLT

Should we create our own 501c3. Clarify if NRPC fiscal sponsorship and existing staff and committee structure would still work. What is the smoothest way to make it happen? FCIDC can help with this process.

We briefly discussed infrastructure and outcomes of meetings with producers and community partners. The infrastructure investment is leaning heavily towards a St. Albans based aggregation and distribution point. This hub could support storage needs, aggregation and distribution of charitable and commercial foods, food sales, office space, event and education space. Bethany pointed out that this would be a great outcome of Local Foods, Local Places and we should move into planning and secure funding to support it.

Reviewed current infrastructure for Brad. Paid storage and cooler site in South Hero for \$1,800/year and free cooler space in Jeffersonville when needed. Neglected to mention closet at City Hall and employee/partner homes. We also have a shared van with FGI CVOEO that has increased volume and efficiency of food movement.

*Hand out – HRC Program packet

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