



**New Brunswick
Community Food Alliance**

**La Alianza Comunitaria
de Alimentación de
New Brunswick**

Section I:	Meeting Information
<p>Meeting Topic: Agriculture Workgroup Meeting Date: 1/29/2019 Location: Martin Hall Room 322, Cook Campus Time: 1pm</p>	

Section II:	Attendance
<p>Vince Rifici (New Brunswick resident), Susan Painter (Parks & Gardens Commission), Johnny Malpica (Rutgers Collaborative Center, Advocacy & Policy WG), Suzy Jivotovski (Promise Garden AmeriCorps), Tiana Rahi (Bonner Student Leader, NBCFM), Isabel Rodriguez (Promise Garden AmeriCorps), Anthony Mendia (Unity Square), Maddie Conroy (FoodCorps), Lauren Errickson (Co-Chair, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and NBCFM)</p>	

Section III:	Agenda Items
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Agenda Items	Report	Action Taken
Work Group Engagement and Revitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paterson Street Garden: Suzy reached out to the Pastor, and they expressed interest in connecting with the workgroup ● Other Faith-based gardens might exist, but we don't have a direct connection to the leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suzy has a few church contacts due to the proximity of Promise Garden to the churches ● Community Engagement Workgroup is continuing hosting community gatherings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Goal to increase participation in NBCFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Suzy will follow up with contacts and share those interested with Lauren

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planting Calendar to share with Gardeners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suzy coordinating with Angela Monahan (Master Gardeners, Middlesex County) 	
<p>Food Forum Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annual NBCFA event to bring together all workgroups and collaborating organizations to showcase the work of the alliance and better engage the local community; generally operates as an open-house type forum ● Saturday, March 30th at Redshaw School, Livingston Avenue, 10am to 2pm ● The day will include music, workshops, lunch, kids activities, raffles, and more ● Youth Activities- Tiana <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seed Mosaic Art Project ○ Salad Friends Planting Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ plant-and-take edible greens for kids ■ bring samples of plants already growing for kids to try, then they can choose to plant their ■ Tiana will work on a materials list and lesson plan ○ Photoboards: fruits/vegetables ○ People LOVED the greenhouse activity last year... we could bring it back at a future event! ● Seed Swap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promise Garden still has some pre-packed smaller selections of seeds from last year ○ Pre-packaging seeds this way is good for distributing small amounts, but gardeners don't get instructions for care, variety information, etc. ○ Feedback from prior years was that people didn't love this mechanism of seed packaging ● EP is interested in leading a Seed Bombing workshop in place of the Seed Swap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EP can contribute materials for the Seed Swap ○ EP can donate already packaged seeds as a giveaway ○ EP can arrange for a staff person (Americorps team) to run the activity ● Could we have a master list of all gardens by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Next planning meeting: Friday, February 8th, 12pm at the RWJ Fitness and Wellness Center ● Tiana and Lauren will continue working on the kids activities ● Garden list: Lauren will make a spreadsheet table for all gardens in the google drive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All add garden names and contact information

	the Food Forum?	
Other Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy Potluck <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community garden tour, with potluck dinner to follow (third time this has happened) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tentative locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ NBCFM Jones Ave Garden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenhouse/hoophouse use activity ■ Feaster or Landers Garden ■ Promise Garden ○ Ag Workgroup will collaborate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Garden activities during the event ■ Flyer distribution ○ May 4th, 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Start 3pm ■ Potluck at 5pm at Unity Square ○ Advocacy & Policy group should be confirming logistics in March- all are welcome to join the meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All send planned events to Lauren as they are confirmed for coordination on calendar, etc. ● Next Advocacy and Policy workgroup meeting March 21st, 1:00pm College Ave Community Church (enter on Mine Street)
New Brunswick Parks and Gardens Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parks and Gardens Commission: Susan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meet second Thursday of every month, open to the public ○ Last year- lots done to allocate \$ to parks improvement based on highest need first <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ \$2 million directed toward improvements by the Mayor ○ This year, proposal for Dog Park ● City Pollinator Garden Buccleuch will have a planting day in the spring ● Environmental Commission is planting milkweed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Johnny can attend in February ● Lauren will attend in March: share Ag Workgroup updates and Rec Park (project slideshows) ● Meetings are at 6:30pm on the second Thursday of each month
Meeting Schedule for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Role for meetings versus activities ● Historically the group has had meetings every other month (consistent with other work groups) ● Seasonal garden activities are limited ● Pairing meetings with ongoing activities could increase more participation by community members, but not everyone wants to participate in meetings ● Promise Garden has their activity calendar being developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We will have quarterly business meetings, with separate events taking place during the season/as time and weather allow ● Lauren will send a Doodle poll to schedule business meetings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● NBCFA Ag WG co-sponsor activities with Promise Garden, NBCFM, potentially Unity Square (recruiting new gardeners- might be able to co-promote with NBCFM/Recreation Park bed availability) and the Lincoln Elementary school (Maddie has plans to build a new garden at the school)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ March○ June○ September○ January● Events will be scheduled during the growing season, separately from meetings
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