



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

April 1, 2024, 6:00-7:30pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Shannon Gettings, Healthcare Representative
Clifton Johnson, Community Representative
LTC Katina Foxworth, Fort Liberty Co-Chair
Robert Elliott, Farming/Agriculture Representative
Shella Korch, Public Health Representative
Joyce Adams, Higher Education Representative*

MEMBERS ABSENT:

*Kenny Bailey, Local Government Representative
Alexis McClain, Farming/Agriculture Representative*

STAFF PRESENT:

*Martina Sconiers-Talbert, Cumberland County Grant Manager
Amy Lo, FPC/WIC CIAO Liaison
Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director
LaToya Bell, WIC Outreach Coordinator*

Item 1. Call to Order:

LTC Foxworth welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Approval of March Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: *Shella Korch* motioned to approve March Regular Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: *Clifton Johnson* seconded the motion.

Approval of March Agenda.

MOTION: *Clifton Johnson* motioned to approve the April Agenda.

SECOND: *Shella Korch* seconded the motion.

Item 2. Action Items:

LTC Katina Foxworth, Fort Liberty Co-Chair

a. WIC Outreach Announcements

LaToya Bell, WIC Outreach Coordinator

- i. *Latoya Bell* and *Amy Lo* did a tabling event at Fort Liberty Womack Medical Center in March. *Latoya Bell* handed out WIC information and incentives to the family medicine outpatient clinics, who were very receptive. On April 2nd, *Latoya Bell* will repeat this activity at Womack Medical Center. Next week, *Latoya Bell* will attend the WIC National Conference.
- ii. UNC Chapel Hill partners are doing data analysis to quantify the effects of *Latoya Bell's* outreach. They will investigate the increases in enrollment and accessibility of WIC.

- iii. *Amy Lo* gave out 12 FPC utensil sets and got 6 emails from interested parties at the Womack Tabling event. *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* and *Amy Lo* discussed putting together more promotional items for future tabling events. *LTC Katina Foxworth* suggested tabling at the Womack cafeteria area to better capture target parties.
- b. NCDOT Pedestrian Safety Committee ***Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director***
Announcements
- i. Concerning the Transportation Planners DOT project that *Tamra Morris* and *Dr. Jennifer Green* participated in, the project leads compiled information on the corridor. There is currently no footpath or bus stop to a convenience store located in an area experiencing food apartheid. Residents would have to cross a fairly busy street with no crosswalk to access food. It is clear that residents access the store by foot as evidenced by a beaten path however, it is dangerous to do so. The next walk through for North Raleigh Street to Black Street will be April 30th. The project heads are looking for attendees to offer perspectives from diverse groups that the members of the FPC may represent.
 - ii. *Clifton Johnson* and *Shella Korch* were forwarded an invite to the next meeting for the Pedestrian Planning Steering Committee Meeting.
 - iii. *Joyce Adams*, who was appointed to the FPC this month, offered her help with this project since she is representing Fayetteville State University.
- c. Food Drops at Fort Liberty WIC Clinic ***Amy Lo, FPC Liaison***
- i. *Tamra Morris* is taking on some of the past WIC Director's plans to establish an MOU with Second Harvest. She will initiate and communicate with Second Harvest in establishing food drops at the WIC Clinic on Fort Liberty and let the FPC know when they are happening so that the council members can help support the effort by attending or sharing with their networks. *Amy Lo* and *Latoya Bell* will attend the food drops.
MOTION: *Robert Elliott* motions to approve support of the food drops.
SECOND: *Shella Korch* seconds the motion.
VOTE: Unanimous (4-0)
- d. Food Tour at Fort Liberty ***Amy Lo, FPC Liaison and LaToya Bell, WIC Outreach Coordinator***
- i. *Amy Lo* and *Latoya Bell* completed an informal food tour at Fort Liberty. They visited a Culinary Outpost that was established by the Army to help supplement soldier's diets when the DFAC was closed. *Amy Lo* explained that the Culinary Outpost was located at the back of a building in what used to be a loading dock and many of the shelves were empty due to a temporary system switch. The NCO in charge explained that generally soldiers found the mini convenience store helpful and sold sandwiches, sushi, and other ready to eat meals. However, Culinary Outposts are closed on the weekends along with the DFACs, so soldiers will still experience food scarcity.
 - ii. *Latoya Bell* introduced *Amy Lo* to *Katrina Somers*, the Fort Liberty YMCA Food Pantry Manager, who has since submitted an FPC membership application and will attend the May meeting.
 - iii. *Shannon Gettings* brought up the Army's efforts to open more vending machine-like areas that can help supplement soldier's food access when the DFACs are closed. She personally knows of soldiers who do not work a regular schedule and cannot easily access food due to the DFACs being closed between meal times. *Shannon Gettings* also highlighted a new

Good Bowls kiosk coming to the Armed Forces Wellness Center that offers a healthy locally sourced meal to soldiers.

- iv. *Clifton Johnson* acknowledged that food access for soldiers has been an obstacle throughout his time in the Army. Soldiers who cannot access food even while the DFAC is open are at a disadvantage since they are spending their own money to get food from other sources.
 - v. *Shannon Gettings* offered that a possible way to address the problem would be through missed meal voucher education. *Clifton Johnson* shared that when a missed meal voucher is submitted, the command has to justify why soldiers missed their meal times and often do not go through the proper channels to get their soldier's money back for the missed meal. *LTC Katina Foxworth* assigned *Amy Lo*, *Clifton Johnson*, and *Shannon Gettings* to conduct research on the regulations surrounding missed meal vouchers and come up with some solutions on how the FPC can help increase their use.
- e. National Public Health Week Update ***Shannon Gettings, Council Member***
- i. Shannon Gettings shared that Womack Medical Center's Facebook and Instagram shared the FPC recruitment post. There was also a tabling event at Womack Medical Center for the FPC staffed by the Fort Liberty Public Health Department.
- f. UNC Partnership Hub Food Policy Practicum ***Tamra Morris, Deputy Health Director***
- i. Interns who apply to the practicum will support the FPC's efforts by helping *Amy Lo* with notes or staffing events, coordinating projects the FPC chooses to pursue, and represent the FPC in outside work groups. Applicants are from the UNC MPH program.
- g. Interim Co-Chair: *Clifton Johnson* ***LTC Foxworth, Ft. Liberty Co-Chair***
- i. Last meeting, *Clifton Johnson* offered to serve as the Cumberland County Co-Chair so that the council can continue its efforts. *Tamra Morris* explained that *LTC Katina Foxworth's* resignation letter and a memo on *Clifton Johnson's* appointment as Co-Chair will be submitted to the Board of Commissioners. There will be a public posting that the Co-Chair positions are vacant as policy dictates. *Tamra Morris* also stated that *Clifton Johnson's* term will start over as Co-Chair and will not be continued as a part of his current term. Clarification on term length will be sought by *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* and *Amy Lo* and added to the Bylaws.

Item 3. List of Grants Review

LTC Foxworth, Ft. Liberty Co-Chair

- a. Last meeting, it was asked of the council members that they come with ideas for the list of grants provided by the FPC's UNC partners. *Robert Elliott* questioned whether the council first decide on objectives and then seek funding. Further discussion will be had at the May meeting.

Item 4. SUN Bucks

Vivian Tookes, DSS Representative

- a. The Summer Electronic Benefits Program is for children whose households participate in certain federal benefits programs. These families will receive SUN Bucks automatically, but others can apply. The benefit cards will be preloaded with \$120 for each eligible child. There is no definite start date at this time, but it will be shared with the FPC. FPC is asked to promote to their relevant networks.



Item 5. Conclusion

LTC Foxworth, Ft. Liberty Co-Chair

- a. Introduction of Visitors
- b. Public Comment
- c. Announcements
 - i. *Dr. Jennifer Green* and *Tamra Morris* are working on the Instacart project that the FPC sought to initiate. They are currently working on the finances and getting the right funds to pay for the program. They have confirmed that Instacart will deliver to rural parts of the county and it will be promoted by several established public health programs such as the Connected Care Program. Grocery tours and assisted grocery shopping (to spend SNAP and WIC dollars) will also be offered in person. Once the program is finalized *Tamra Morris* will share details with *Amy Lo* to be forwarded to the council for feedback. This will be added to the May agenda.
 - ii. *Dr. Jennifer Green* will follow up on Commissioner Keefe's visit with the FPC.

ADJOURN

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Monday, May 6, 2024 6-7:30pm

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