



NH FOOD ALLIANCE

CLIMATE & FOOD ACTION TEAM

2nd Thursday each month

11AM-12PM

<https://unh.zoom.us/j/99050443603>

AGENDA: 11-18-21

PRESENT: Rob Werner, Tony Grasso, Chris Skoglund, Erin Hale, Colleen Stewart, Jacob Nelson, Edith Couchman

Topic	Description	Time
<i>Welcome & Updates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Check-ins• Professional Updates• General team updates	11:00
<i>Group Organization / Subcommittee Discussion</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying areas of interest• Forming groups/leaders• Using CAT meetings to convene about the specific issues	11:20
<i>Events & Community Building</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upcoming climate-related events we can support/sponsor/speak at?	11:40
<i>Meeting Close</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summarize next steps	11:55

NOTES

CONCLUSIONS & ACTION ITEMS

Role of Climate Action Team

- Policy— education and advocacy
- Education/Communication— being a nexus for information, climate-related events, and resources for food system colleagues
- Community Connection/Action— connecting climate and food orgs/stakeholders

Action Items

- Support League of Conservation Voters Dec screening of "Farm Free or Die" film



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- To connect the Climate Action Team with other NHFA actions teams: invite Climate Action Team member to present on intersection of climate change and food insecurity at the next NH Food Access Coalition meeting
- Support NE Feeding NE's Food System Resilience Assessment project
- Start thinking about 2022 Climate + Food Forum in April.
- Review Jacob's report— "Growing a Climate Resilient New Hampshire Food System" Please review the report and take note of 3-5 opportunity areas identified in the report that the Climate Action Team can collectively work on. We will ask you to share those at our Dec meeting and select as a group.

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- Public utilities commission issues an order on Friday that crushed NH energy efficiency programs, NHDES in the background
- Our group is at a crossroads of what we are working on, individual members come to climate and food work from different angles and with different interests. BUT climate change touches all other focus areas of our food system— food access, farmer mental health, land access, market development.
- Chris—my hope for this group is to be facilitating conversation with other groups and teams to ask how climate change relates to your group or how might you need to integrate climate change into your work
- Being aware of the FSNE NE Feeding NE project, not doubling effort
- Julie— do not need to split into different groups, all of the topics we were discussing relate to gray infrastructure, Julie to send report on that topic from Cat Buxton. ARPA funds legislation group, Steve Keleti proposing in MA that soil health is infrastructure
- How can this group collectively support one another? Information sharing and learning
- Identify, programs or projects that we are working on together, what is our focus?
 - Policy— we can collaborate and learn about with Rob's insight, two buckets what's on the docket for the sessions support or oppose, looking ahead at legislation in other parts of the country and incorporate into policy here
- Food system resilience assessment from NEFNE project, this group can support this
- System interactions, Upper Valley/Vital communities did a migration networking event. Migration has been an issue people have latched onto. Farmland tends to grow houses if it is not protected. CAT meeting with all the different focus group, individuals from this group to meet with other action teams. Promoting collaboration and cross cutting work
 - Either have meetings like this or invite climate to present at NH FAC or other groups on how climate affects those areas
 - Rolling out the Food system resilience assessment from NEFNE project with local/regional planning commissions in NH
- Education aspects— environmental business council of NE, upcoming film "Farm Free or Die" in final cut there is an interest in a test screening amongst NHFA folks to gauge what people think about the film, week of the Dec 13



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- Defining the roll of this team:
 - Policy
 - Education/Communication— being a nexus for the information, climate-related events and resources for food system colleagues
 - Community Connection/Action— how are we making sure that we are connecting orgs/stakeholders
- Vital Communities
 - Climate migration forum resource— identified project areas that VC is focusing on right now, overarching goal is empowering more resilient communities in the face of climate and migration Planning and implement projects to lead in that direction
 - Bulk purchasing program to help farmers make their farm more resilient, ag/economy/climate, project based work. Working on needs assessment to implement by next growing season
 - Working with Dartmouth College, applying for a large grant to do rural community case studies, anecdotal evidence to what we need to do to make these communities more resilient against climate and climate migration, making this place better for people who may migrate here
 - Looking across sectors! Housing, transportation, energy, ag, food systems. Align the work so it is not being done separately, convening needs to move to facilitation and implementation.
 - A lot of this work will be based on reorganization
 - How VC bulk order will integrate with NOFA and Conservation Districts bulk order program? VC identifying shortfalls and supplement
- Think concretely, what this group would like to do moving forward?
 - Film screening and discussion of “Farm Free or Die”
 - Climate team connected with other NHFA actions groups
 - Mitigation vs. adaptation— ARPA funding letter detailing for soil as infrastructure, energy efficiencies, and food hub network support
 - Soil Health Partnership/Northeast Healthy Soil Network getting revitalized— Julie to go to those meetings and bring back items for CAT to support
 - First part of our meeting, every reporting back about other networks/work and reporting to this group
 - Who is missing in this group?
 - Lack of leadership from the state on climate change, this group needs to stay together but at the same time
 - NOFA-NH Why Local Organic?— building a consensus of informational nexus and outreach
 - Climate education piece as part of NH Eats Local LFPP
 - Tangible what we are doing in this group?



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- Mining a lot of the people who are working in those communities/municipalities for what they are working on, getting feedback and organizing the information to be useful for communication and model replication— Food system resilience assessment from NEFNE project
- Groundwork has been done! Jacob's report, we're not short on ideas, were short on structure for choosing the "thing"
- Climate + Food Forum

Follow up with Tony with contact information! Edith/Jacob

EVENTS & COMMUNITY BUILDING

- [Climate Disruptions and Dinner: How is climate change impacting our food systems?](#)
November 19, 2021
- Connection with Gage Wheeler from Climate Action NH
- <https://www.iisd.org/publications/investment-in-nature-close-infrastructure-gap>
- Vital Communities/UVAW 11/9 Event—
<https://vitalcommunities.org/planning-for-a-just-prosperous-and-resilient-future-with-climate-change-migration-11-9-21/>
- <https://www.unh.edu/sustainability/blog/2021/11/other-hand-reflections-cop26>