



FORT LIBERTY  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT

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

January 6, 2025, 6:00-7:30pm

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

*Shannon Gettings, Healthcare Representative*  
*Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland County Co-Chair*  
*Joyce Adams, Higher Education*  
*Beth Maynard, Cumberland County Schools*  
*Shella Korch, Public Health Representative*  
*Melissa Pennington, Food Insecurity Representative*  
*Roni Winston, Food Insecurity Representative*

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

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

### STAFF PRESENT:

*Amy Lo, FPC Liaison*  
*Martina Sconiers-Talbert, AO III*  
*Dr. Jennifer Green, Public Health Director*  
*Nicole Beckwith*

### Item 1. Call to Order:

*Dr. Clifton Johnson* welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Approval of December Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: *Joyce Adams* motioned to approve December Regular Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: *Melissa Pennington* seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval

Approval of January Agenda.

MOTION: *Shella Korch* motioned to approve the January Agenda.

SECOND: *Beth Maynard* seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous Approval

### Item 2a. Action Item: Joy Pope Memorial Grant Update

***Martina Sconiers-Talbert, Administrative Officer III***

- a. *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* shared that unfortunately, the FPC did not receive funding through the grant for the food truck project. She invited the members to keep an eye out for other funding sources and ensured the council that the public health department will also keep looking for grant opportunities. She also mentioned that Joy Pope Memorial may have other

opportunities for funding that this project may qualify for, so she will investigate it. *Amy Lo* reminded the group that the list of grants provided by David from UNC would also be a good resource to reference as the new year will allow the council to apply. She will repost it on Basecamp so the council can view it. *Dr. Jennifer Green* suggested that the incoming intern *Meredith Thompson* can pick a few grants from the list to present to the council in February.

**Item 2b. Action Item: UNC Partnership  
HUB Intern**

***Martina Sconiers-Talbert, Administrative Officer III***

- a. *Meredith Thompson*, an MPH student from UNC will be interning at Cumberland County Public Health Department and will be taking over *Amy Lo*'s role with the FPC. She will be interning until May 2025 and will be working on deliverables, so the FPC is encouraged to utilize her skills to aid any projects the FPC chooses to pursue. She will be hybrid and starts on Monday Jan 13.

**Item 2c. Action Item: 2025 FPC Plans**

***Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland Co-Chair***

- a. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* opened up a discussion on the FPC's plans for 2025.
- b. *Joyce Adams* indicated that she had spoken with *Glenn Adams*, a Board of Commissioners member, about the FPC's desire to connect with them. *Glenn Adams* said that the Board of Commissioners would be happy to meet virtually or in person. *Dr. Jennifer Green* also reached out to the Board of Commissioners after the FPC's last meeting, and their team was hoping to join the March FPC meeting. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* agreed to tentatively plan for the Board of Commissioners to join the March FPC meeting. *Dr. Jennifer Green* will follow up.
- c. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* opened up the floor for suggestions from the council for the presentation to the Board of Commissioners. *Roni Winston* asked for the February meeting to be in person so that any work on a presentation can be face to face, which may make discussions and workshopping easier. After some discussion on whether February's meeting will be in person or virtual, it was decided that *Amy Lo* will send out an announcement asking for whether council members would like to be in person or virtual in mid-January to get a tally which will decide. *Melissa Pennington* suggested that the council do some pre-February meeting brainstorming on what to present so that during the meeting the members can workshop the ideas together to save time. Many were in agreeance. *Dr. Jennifer Green* suggested that *Meredith Thompson* and *Amy Lo* gather county data for the council to have at the February meeting that can help inform their decisions on what to present. She also suggested that the council come to consensus on a few "asks" of the Board of Commissioners. *Amy Lo* will post a discussion board where council members can respond with their "asks" that will be worked on in February's meeting.
- d. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* summarizes that the final presentation to the Board of Directors will include a review of the FPC's work, history, county data, and asks of the directors for the coming year. *Martina Sconiers-Talbert* and *Amy Lo* will work on having some draft slides on the history and work of the FPC for the February meeting.
- e. *Dr. Clifton Johnson* asked about the contract that allowed a local farm to donate fresh food boxes and whether it was still valid or not. *Shella Korch* responded and said that the contract expired in November 2024 and unless the vendor gets another contract with USDA, the program has ended.
- f. *Dr. Jennifer Green* announced to the council that *Emma Holly*, the new WIC Director has been hired and on boarded last month. Her contact information will be shared on Basecamp. Any future food box distributions can be linked with food benefit programs to offer sustainable solutions.

**Item 2d. Action Item: ServSafe Free Classes for Spanish speakers Dr. Jennifer Green, Public Health Director**

- a. The environmental health division at Cumberland County is holding free ServSafe classes for Spanish speakers in Spring 2025. *Dr. Jennifer Green* is looking for feedback on how to best offer the class to the intended audience.
- b. *Melissa Pennington* recommended promoting the class on Facebook as there are many relevant groups with thousands of members who would be interested. She also suggested promoting the class to local churches and posting flyers at specialty grocery stores. *Melissa Pennington* will send over screenshots of the relevant Facebook pages.
- c. *Beth Maynard* asked if the program books will be in Spanish. She also endorsed the program citing many instances of Spanish speakers seeking food service jobs at the school nutrition program.

**Item 3. Conclusion**

***Dr. Clifton Johnson, Cumberland Co-Chair***

- a. Introduction of Visitors
- b. Public Comment
- c. Announcements

**ADJOURN**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**Monday, February 3, 2025 6-7:30pm**

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