

## Iowa USDA Foods Advisory Council Meeting

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The Iowa USDA Foods Advisory Council met on Friday, April 29, 2011. Council members in attendance were: Jane Heikenen, Nancy Hogstad, Marie Miller, Virginia Bechtold, Donna Becker, Donna Sevenich, Allison Ketter, and Sharon Foote. Those not in attendance were Lisa Nolting, Denise Rawson and Lori Bohlen.

Nancy Hogstad read the previous minutes. The reference to "SNA" should be changed to "SNA Iowa". Donna Becker approved the minutes and Allison Ketter seconded.

Items to bid on for school year 2012-2013 were discussed. Due to problems with processors getting samples and RFPs sent timely, Jane Heikenen will contact companies two week prior to deadline to ensure they received the RFP. Council is interested in bidding on a chicken drumstick product, breakfast items providing two grains and one meat/meat alternate, a breaded chicken strip, unbreaded grilled chicken pattie, lower sodium whole grain grilled cheese sandwich, and an appetizer cheese stick.

Jane Heikenen will send usage breakdown information by size of school for some of the state processed items and will compile a list of the most popular NOI items as ideas for possible future state processed items.

The new USDA Foods Oven Roasted Chicken has been a popular item with all grades.

The student taste testing procedure was discussed. One of the issues in the past has been schools getting too many samples. Council decided a single school does not need to sample all items submitted for a single RFP. Student testing is only to determine acceptable or not acceptable. All products need to be sampled by the council to get scoring for taste, appearance, flavor, etc. A sub-committee of Nancy Hogstad, Marie Miller, and Virginia Bechtold initiated by Jane Heikenen will develop scoring system for RFPs.

The USDA Foods booth for the SNA Iowa Conference was discussed. The following items will be at the booth:

- The Processing Handbook,
- Handout of new state processed items,
- The New Look of USDA Foods fact sheet
- NOI Information
- Samples of dried fruit along with recipe from Perry CSD

Council members in attendance at the SNA Iowa Conference will work a shift at the booth. Jane Heikenen will send out assigned times to cover booth from 11:00 – 1:30 June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The State Agency will pay for one night at hotel and mileage.

Dean Flaws will check on availability of garbanzo beans for SY 2011-2012.

Certificates of appreciation were handed out to Donna Becker, Donna Sevenich, and Allison Ketter for serving a three year term. A certificate will be mailed to Judi Olson for serving a one year term.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2011. Council will sample WG cheese filled breadsticks, French toast sticks and appetizer cheese sticks.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by:

*Jane Heikenen*