

Meeting Minutes
EASTCONN Food Cooperative

Meeting called to order on 4 December 2017 at: 10:10 AM

In Attendance: Sandra Garcia (EASTCONN), Amy Sanders-Banning (Bozrah), Wendy Knight (Willington), Tom O'Connor (Griswold, Preston, Canterbury, Voluntown), Beth LaPane (Stafford), Joanne Hanes (Franklin), Heather Plourde (EASTCONN), Richard Tariff (EASTCONN), Pierrette Kokofsky (East Windsor), Chris Urban (East Lyme), Patti Patton (Ellington), Jorge Rodriguez (CREC), Diane Edwards (Enfield), Becky Tyrrell (EdAdvance), Sharon Shettleworth (RSD #17), Stephanie Richard (Mansfield), Dana Tice (Simsbury)

Introductions

As you will see from the list above, there were some new faces, it was nice to put some names to faces.

Open Discussion

Rich Tariff asked to have members help the cooperative grow by getting more districts on board the cooperative as well as within their own district. There are many districts that do not take advantage of all of the current bids, this could save districts money and time if they were to be a part of more bids. Sandra asked for volunteers for the bid committee. Thus far the following volunteered, Heather P, Dana T, Diane E, Patti P, Perry K, Wendy K, Beth L, Sharon S. If you're interested please email Sandra as the meetings for the bid committee need to begin in January.

Sandra has sent out a brief survey through SurveyMonkey.com, please make sure to take it. Sandra will re-send the survey to members as some members stated that they didn't receive it.

David Nichols – American Patriot Sales

J & J snacks – They are a part of Cool School.

The cookies are all on approved list. They are currently not on our bid.

Pretzels, they have a 2.2 grain pretzel and a 1 grain pretzel.

Chortles, they gave out samples. They come in different flavors and sizes. They are a 1 grain.

Barrel O' Fun Snack, is competing with Frito Lay.

They handed out a stocking list for Thurstons and M & Frosted. These booklets are ongoing since products come and go.

Bongards Creameries – They have the creamiest cheese products. They also have different flavored sliced cheese.

Cool Tropics - slushes, they are shelf stable. They've partnered with Welches.

Country Pure - Juice veggie blends, they come in 4 ounce and 6 ounce. They've purchased sidekicks.

Cherry smooth and sunbelivable are new flavors, they are also veggie blends.

ES Foods - breakfast breaks, they come in a box of 36, 10 different varieties. Meal breaks are great for after school programs, summer programs, and field trips.

De Waffelbakkers – They come in maple, banana, or cinnamon. No added water, you can heat them in the bag. They are a 2 grain product.

Hadley Farms - cinnabar, if you warm them for about 15 minutes they taste much better but you don't need to warm them. They come in a 60/2.9oz. case, are 2oz equivalent per bar. They also sell croissants.

Proview – They have spicy chicken patty, popcorn chicken, chicken nuggets, whole muscle filets breaded, buffalo chunks. Sandra has some spec sheets, if you need them please let her know and she can send them to you.

JTM - in the PDF there are scimatics/overview of how to cook them. If you want a demo contact Dave & Dennis and they will try to fit you into the schedule.

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Sous Vide Proteins - you will need to do something with it, as it is plain however they are very tasty. It comes in beef, pork and turkey.

Wild Mikes - 5" personal pizza. You can do commodity processing, they come either individually wrapped or not. Can be heated in the bag. Pizza crust is herb seasoned, the herb side should be faced down, the sauce should not be put on it.

Post - they bought Malt-O Meal, 8 of the flavors meet the 6 gram sugar requirement. Comes in a 2 ounce.

Mr Sips – They have gluten free wrapped products. They do kits as well. One box has food for one child per week. Thurston stocks these. Any distributor can bring it in, don't let them tell you otherwise.

Smokewood - Taco tubs, each box has instructions and does recommend that you bake them in the oven for about 3 minutes, it does make a difference. They are gluten free. They also have the Tostado bowls, which are popular.

Tasty Brands - Bagelfuls are a great breakfast item.

Post & Malt-O-Meal– Many varieties to offer

David Nichols – Director of K-12

Phone: 413-221-9121

Email: dnichols@americanpatriotsales.com

Dennis O'Connor

Email: doconnor@americanpatriotsales.com

Laurie Cerullo - TriMark

They are a supply company. They do deliveries 5 days a week. Low minimums for orders, usually \$150 but will work with you if needed. They've committed to bidding on our upcoming bid. Tom in Griswold uses them currently and has had success with them, if you need a recommendation he will give one.

There is no shipping cost unless there is a drop ship which is usually an emergency delivery. They do have specialists that can come out to see what is best for you in regards to equipment if needed. If they change an item to a different size they will credit back the item to you and take back the unused items if product gets switched out. Sandra will email Laurie when the bid comes out so that they can bid for next year.

Laurie Cerullo – Sales Representative

Phone: 860-514-9889

Email: lcerullo@trimarkusa.com

Jason Daigle – Regional Sales Manager

Phone: 203-650-8091

Email: jdaigle@trimarkusa.com

Mary Mann- The CoreGroup

Smuckers – They offer Uncrustables in different sizes, 2.6oz (1 grain), 2.3 oz. (1 grain), 5.3 oz (2 grain) and 4.5 oz (2 grain).

Juicy Juice – No added sugar, Orange Medley is a vegetable juice. 4.23oz.

Jack Links – 4 different flavors (chicken strip, original, teriyaki and peppered)

Odis Spunkmeyer - muffins & cookies

Jif to go

Mary X Mann

Phone: 603-305-3374

Email: marymann@coregroupsales.com

Debra Shechtel - At Your Service Sales

Baycrafters - can get samples easily, Thurstons carries about 35 sku's French toast stick, does not need syrup.

Pizzaria - no soy in cheese. Thurstons carries them. Many different pizzas offered.

Rich chicks - less sodium, states moist longer, fat is lower.

May rights company -

Comédia vida - next year you'll be able to divert. Some products shown were: Queso Blanco, Beef Shreds, Chicken Shreds, Spanish Brown Rice, Ripe Plantains, Yuca Steak cut fries, Pork shreds, and mild beef Jamaican style beef patty. If you would like nutritionals, Sandra has them, simply email her and she will gladly send them out.

Debra Shechtel

Phone: 508-930-2940

Email: Dshechtel@yourservicesales.com

Next Meeting: The next meeting date will be out shortly, it will be held at EASTCONN in Hampton time will be coming soon. In the meantime if you need anything please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a great day!

Sandra Garcia
EASTCONN Cooperative