

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Food Arts and Related Industries Committee**  
**14 April 2008**

**Members Present:** Maryann Beinecke, Jen Merritt (Co-Chair), Bill Blodgett (Co-Chair), Bob Butler (Secretary), Sara Hotchkiss, Ted Wooster, and Charlotte Davenport. **Also present:** Amy Winston, Advisor, and Gordon G. “Sandy” Campbell of SeaReach/CMI.

Jen Merritt, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

Minutes of the 7 April Meeting

Ted made, and Bill Blodgett seconded, a motion to approve the minutes for the 7 April 2008 meeting. There was no discussion. All votes were in favor.

Testimony

Jen reported that Mr. Hackmeister was out of town working and was not currently available to be interviewed. Jen had spoken to Mary Ellen, who confirmed that Mr. Hackmeister had received a call on 27 March, the day after the Committee held its workshop to read through the proposals received pursuant to its RFP. She was not able to provide the name of the person who made the call. There was no further discussion of this matter.

Sandy Campbell

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to brainstorming and to working through the study’s tasks with Sandy Campbell, who confirmed that SeaReach/CMI had signed the Town’s contract for completion of the feasibility study.

Some of the major points touched upon during the discussion included:

- SeaReach will assign Carol Coutrier a major role in conducting the study. Her experience gained from starting the Hommus Factory will contribute to determining possible value-added products for consideration
- Central Maine Community College in Auburn has expressed an interest in a possible Waldoboro food arts center. There may be other possible partners.
- Sandy requested committee members to provide information about people in Waldoboro who have been or who are in the food business.
- Charlotte will try to obtain materials relating the work MSAD40 committees did or had done when reviewing options available for improving, consolidating or replacing A.D. Gray.

Particular mention was made of architectural concepts. Dick Campbell is another resource for information about the school.

- The Food Arts and AD Gray Committees will exchange information and make it available to SeaReach. The Committee suggested Sandy connect with John Blamey, the chairman of the A.D. Gray Committee.
- The Committee emphasized the importance of a vision or concept to guide the study. SeaReach will develop some possible scenarios to discuss with the Committee.
- Geographical considerations were discussed, including proximity to Waldoboro for commuting students and supporting farms and industries and the development of regional and/or local food sources.
- Related activities to be examined include boutique classes; food tours; public markets; shopping patterns in the Waldoboro area (is it a food desert? Will the local Hannaford's renew its lease?); possible demand for a commercial kitchen to support start-ups; the existence or absence of a marketing/packaging infrastructure;
- What premium niche markets might there be to support higher value-added products and higher paying jobs?

Amy, in particular, directed Sandy to numerous possible information and data resources.

The Committee agreed to meet periodically with Sandy to follow SeaReach's progress and to provide additional direction.

### Adjournment

Bill Blodgett asked if there was any other business. There not being any, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn, and the Committee unanimously agreed to do so at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert L. Butler  
Secretary