



May 27, 2025

CCI-Guiding Coalition Meeting

In Attendance: CCI members: Debbie, Christel, Kristy, Joe, Jim, Diane, Jan, Tracy (& Nick) Pigg
Community members: Molly Angle, Paul & Laura Evans (plus daughters, Emma & Audrey),
Brandon Halsey, Levi Halsey, Becky Miller, Tabitha & Brian Elliott

Call to Order: By Joe @ 7 p.m. after 6:30 soup dinner

After introductions, Joe announced the completion of the CCI Clinton County visitor guide.
Visitclintoncomo.com Jim gave a summary.

The rest of the meeting was a wide-ranging discussion on the county's farm-to-market community based on experiences and aspirations of the producers in attendance. Among the topics:

- *Need for a data base about the county's inventory of producers.
 - *A Facebook group, C3 Homestead Community, now serves Clinton, Clay and Caldwell counties. It lists 17 members including producers and farmers' markets on an interactive map.
 - *Molly started a discussion of farm tour possibilities. Consumers on a bus, a caravan of cars, a day(s) of a countywide self-guided tour.
 - *Farm Bureau sponsors farm tours.
 - *MissourigrownUSA.com (MO Dept of Ag) assists small producers.
 - *There was interest in collaboration with other producers, not competition among them.
 - *Communication among producers is important. So is communication to consumers.
 - *Brandon and Levi are planning a farm-to-market retail shop in downtown Plattsburg.
- They are assessing demand and will seek producers to provide supply of fresh goods.
- *Seasonality is always an issue for producers.
 - *Brandon referenced someone who wants to build large greenhouses in Clinton County to keep a steady supply of fresh food on the market. So far, he is daunted by markets.
 - *What if a cooperative CSA pooled resources to meet demand?
 - *Molly works with other beekeepers to keep honey supply steady.
 - *Finished (table-ready) products could fill a demand among consumers who want to buy local but are strapped for time after work.
 - *Cooking lessons/recipes could be part of a farm-to-market conference open to the consuming public. Nutrition education is lacking.
 - *Consumers must be educated about the costs of production and the prices producers must charge to achieve a profit and stay in business.
 - *It's difficult to contact consumers in a rural county.
 - *Becky's farm offers "boondock camping" as a way to diversify income.
 - *Don't be afraid of competition because it actually grows markets.



*Molly—regulations are expensive and time-consuming to follow. Direct to consumer marketing can work around some of those barriers.

*Agritourism tab for visitor guide?

*Missouri EATS is of interest to the group. But they don't think a formalized process will appeal to many of their fellow producers.

*What's next? The producers want at least one more meeting and more participants to decide if they want to form some kind of network.

Next meeting set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 24 at the Community Courtyard in Plattsburg.