

Attachment 1:

**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council  
Wednesday, April 18, 2012  
City Hall, Room 333  
3:00-5:00 pm**

**Minutes**

Attendance: Patty Bowler, Beth Dooley, Cam Gordon, Kristine Igo, Tim Jenkins, Eric Larsen, Bob Lind, Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer, Gayle Prest, Erica Prosser, Deborah Ramos, Rebecca Reed, Aaron Reser, Julie Ristau, Alison Rotel, Kurt Schreck, Tracy Singleton, Mustafa Sundiata, Rhys Williams

Homegrown Youth Leaders Present: Evan Barnett and J'onBree Wright Bridges

Absent: Russ Henry and Neil Oxendale

Others in Attendance: HGM Homegrown Consultant Jane Shey, HGM Administrative Analyst Colin Cureton, Sarah Strickland, June Mathiowetz

**Homegrown Update**

Chair Mustafa Sundiata opened the meeting with the following updates:

- Mustafa Sundiata introduced the new Food Council Staff, Jane Shey, Consultant to Homegrown Minneapolis and Colin Cureton, Administrative Analyst as well as Homegrown Youth Leaders Evan Barnett and J'onBree Wright Bridges.
- Chair Mustafa Sundiata formally thanked June Mathiowetz on behalf of the Food Council for her service with Homegrown Minneapolis.
- Gayle Prest moved to approve the March Food Council minutes. It was seconded and approved.
- Kristine Igo gave an update on Food Day, 2012 which will be held on October 24. Kris is taking the lead on encouraging groups to step forward to host Food Day activity with the University of Minnesota hosting a two-day event.
- Jane Shey updated the Food Council that the Metropolitan Council is examining Food Policy in its 2040 Regional Development Framework. Alison Rotel suggests Jane and the Met Council connect with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

**Adoption of Bylaws**

Alison Rotel moves to adopt the bylaws. Chair Beth Dooley seconds.

## Attachment 1:

### **Policy Progress**

- Mustafa Sundiata updated the Food Council that the Urban Agriculture Policy Plan text amendments were officially passed by the City Council.
- Tim Jenkins reported on his work on the Minnesota Food Code, which is being updated from the 1998 code. Tim recently attended the national Conference for Food Protection in Indianapolis, with industry, academia, community and government representatives to suggest revisions to the federal Food Code the (Food and Drug Administration's model code for States) which is also being updated. The State suggestions are now out for public comment. Tim is on both the State and Federal committees and notes that there are many issues in the Food Code related to HGM's work. Aaron Reser notes that the Food Code affects farmers markets and Alison Rotel notes that it also affects farm-to-school. Tim volunteered to take the lead on this for the Food Council. Tracy Singleton volunteered to work on the issue, as well as Kurt Schreck, Neil Oxendale, Alison Rotel, and RhysWilliams.
- Jane Shey updated the Food Council on an upcoming meeting in Boston with the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Food Policy Task Force to discuss federal and local policies impacting access to healthy food in U.S. cities and urban areas. She will also be in Washington, D.C. meeting with staff of the Minnesota delegation, the lobbyist for the City of Minneapolis, and other groups. Gayle Prest informed the Food Council that the Isaac Walton League has an excellent four minute video on the Farm Bill, as it relates to conservation, and crop insurance.
- Cam Gordon spoke about a possible Local & Sustainable Food Policy Purchasing Policy in light of the recently passed environmentally friendly preferable food policy. The City buys a small but not insignificant amount of food. Item IV of the handout provided by CM Gordon is of particular interest. Patty Bowler reported that the Health Department worked with HR to pass a healthy food purchasing policy. Two examples Erica Prosser provided were the Target and Convention Centers which try to utilize products from local businesses. Alison Rotel inquired about what food the city purchases with Cam Gordon listing vending machines and food for events. He suggested this could policy could be replicated by Hennepin County, Augsburg College, and the University of Minnesota. Cam Gordon asked for everyone's input of Item IV.

## Attachment 1:

### **Strategic Planning**

- Sarah Strickland began facilitation of the strategic plan based on a copy of the planning work done to date as well as further clarification by the Executive Committee. June Mathiowetz provided an update on the Goals document (page 3 of handout). Sarah clarified that the document includes goals, tactics and priorities selected by the Food Council members with added metrics by June Mathiowetz.
  
- Sarah Strickland introduced the objective of the upcoming small group work with Food Council members staying in the same groups from the previous meeting - Growing & Composting, Processing & Distribution, or Eating. The question to be answered is: “How, over the next 24 months, would you prioritize the italicized statements under each tactic? If each goal were placed on a timeline, will moving that goal significantly forward take 9 months, 18 months, 2 years, or beyond? Each group’s task is to “bucket” their goals.
  
- The ***Growing & Composting Group*** report: The group only got through the first Strategic Direction for Growing and did not get to Growing’s Strategic Direction two or to the Composting section.
  - The group started by identifying increasing support for the Local Food Resource Hubs as a 9-month goal, and suggested doing so will be aided by getting another report from the Hubs.
  - Regarding the goal to increase community gardens by 1 acre, the city is already doing this. The group suggested that the goal regarding having all residents within a half-mile of a community garden will first require mapping current access, and much longer to engage people around this issue.
  - Supporting schools’ ability to grow food is already happening, and an incorporation of which schools are most in need to the final metric is suggested.
  - The public housing item was tabled for now.
  - Goals relating to promoting city-wide edible perennials and goals relating to High Quality green space regulations were mentioned, but a timeline was not identified. Partnering with Sisters Camelot on a number of these goals was suggested.
  - Finally, goals on the 24 month time-scale were identified including moving forward incorporating gardening into school curriculum and the goal regarding Greenway community gardens, edibles, etc.
  
- The ***Eating Group*** report:
  - Everything on page 8 of the meeting packet is identified as a 9 month goal, except goal #62 (identifying farmer-to-consumer supply chain gaps) because it seems overly broad.

## Attachment 1:

- Goal #71 (promoting precautionary and organic food growing and consumption) is identified as overlapping with Growing. If that goal is handed-off, it would be a 9-month goal. The title of the goal is changed to “People Connect and Care about the Local Food System,” thus expanding the goal to be more comprehensive (i.e. include visitors).
- Deborah Ramos suggests that Goal #79 (develop and implement a multicultural community engagement plan with targets on more representations of communities of color on the next Council) should be a cross-cutting goal, meaning it needs to be in every one of the five areas of Homegrown’s work. There is general agreement on this.
- It was suggested that goal# 62 should also be a cross-cutting goal.
- The ***Processing & Distribution Group*** report:
  - Within processing, goal #27, 96, and 32 are 9-month goals, which included a road map for licensing, transparency, and consolidation of information.
  - Goal #26 regarding the Hubs is a 9-month goal.
  - Goal #28 regarding a neighborhood based meal preparation coop is identified as a 24-month goal.
  - Goal #34 regarding an urban farmer aggregation facility and the city generally supporting food entrepreneurs is identified as an 18-month goal.
  - Goal #35 and 37 regarding the Food Code, State Laws, and regulations are identified as 9-month goals.
  - Goals #39, 53, and 43 on distribution are identified as 9-month goals.
  - Goal #42 (staple food ordinance) is already underway and as such is called a 9-month goal.
  - Goal #41 is identified as a 9-month code with the city in a supporting role.
  - Goal #33 is also identified as one in which the city plays a supporting role, and is set at 18 months.
- Alison Rotel made a recommendation to add a section above or below the five columns on the page titled ‘Food Council Priorities as Identified at March 2012 Meeting’ (page labeled as number 1 in the meeting packet) that state the Council’s priorities around equitable participation and economic development because these priorities apply across the board. There is agreement and the document will be updated as such.
- Deborah Ramos also suggested that the FPC should prioritize supporting bike coops that are already in existence. These include Youth Farm, Tamales y Bicicletas, and others.

## Attachment 1:

### **Working Group Development & Updates**

- Bob Lind gave a quick update on the Economic Development Working Group which is focusing on three grants: Farmer's Market Promotion Program, Microenterprise Development, and Community Economic Development. Approximately 20 Food Council members expressed interest in this working group and Bob will convene a meeting shortly.
- Jane Shey provided an update on the Communications/Community Engagement Working Group with the first meeting scheduled for Monday, April, 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. A suggestion was made to split communications and community engagement into two separate groups, with a decision to be made by the group after the first couple of meetings.
- Julie Ristau spoke briefly on communicating with the public about Homegrown Minneapolis. There has been much discussion and questions regarding how Food Council members should speak about Homegrown Minneapolis, some of its history, etc. How the Food Council members talk about and represent Homegrown is integral to the Council's work. This topic will be a future agenda item with possible training for members and updated written materials.

### **Next Meeting and Adjournment**

- Jane Shey will identify locations for Food Council meetings outside of City Hall.
- It was suggested that the Food Council meet for 2 hours each month versus the originally requested 1.5 hours. The Council agreed with extending the time of the meetings.
- Cam Gordon moved to adjourn with Julie Ristau seconded.