



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council
Wednesday, February 15, 2012
City Hall, Room 333
3:00-4:30 p.m.

- 3:00-3:45 Framework for Action**
- 1) Mapping of Homegrown structure
 - 2) Selection of Co-chair
 - 3) Selection of Executive Committee (two co-chairs + up to three members + Homegrown Coordinator)
 - 4) Identifying Homegrown draft priorities and working groups
 - 5) Adoption of group norms developed at orientation (Attachment #3)
- 3:45-4:25 Updates**
- 6) Homegrown Coordinator updates
 - 7) Status of Urban Agriculture Text Amendment
 - 8) Composting ordinance (Robin Garwood)
- 4:25-4:30 Next meeting**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in City Hall, Room 333

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- **Urban Ag Text Amendment in the Zoning and Planning Committee**
 Moved to March 1, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers
- **League of Women Voters Forum: “Fresh Choices: Growing the Local Food Economy”** - March 22, 2012 - Plymouth Congregational Church -1900 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis – 5:30 food and film; 7:00-9:30 p.m. event
- **Alliance for Sustainability Annual Conference**
 -March 24, 2012
- **Gardening Matters Spring Resource Fair**
 -Saturday, March 31, 2012 – Neighborhood House – 179 Robie Street – St. Paul - 9am to 4 pm (including a panel on Homegrown and St. Paul Food and Nutrition Commission)
- **Local Food Resource Hubs Network**
 - April 14, 2012 - Seeds and cold crop seedlings distribution event
 - May 19, 2012 - Hot crop seedlings distribution event

**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council
Wednesday, January 18, 2012
City Hall, Room 333
3:00-4:30 pm**

Minutes

Present (90% attendance): Patty Bowler, Beth Dooley, Cam Gordon, Russ Henry, Kristine Igo, Tim Jenkins, Eric Larsen, Bob Lind, Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer, Neil Oxendale, Gayle Prest, Rebecca Reed, Aaron Reser, Julie Ristau, Alison Rotel, Kurt Schreck, Tracy Singleton, Mustafa Sundiata, Rhys Williams

Not Present: Erica Prosser, Deborah Ramos

Guests: Robin Garwood, Erin Swenson-Klatt, Megan O'Hara, Aly Pennucci, Sarah Strickland

Announcements

Megan O'Hara, former tri-chair of the Homegrown (HGM) Task Force, provided opening comments to kick off the inaugural 2012-2013 Food Council. Introductions were made with each person highlighting the unique perspective they bring to the Food Council. An announcement from the Mayor's office indicated that Beth Dooley is his appointee to co-chair the Food Council. The other co-chair will be determined by the Food Council at a future meeting as required by City Council resolution.

June Mathiowetz, Homegrown Coordinator, went over the administrative details and reminded everyone that the Homegrown Food Council meetings are scheduled to be held on the third Wednesday of every month from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in City Hall, Room 333 unless otherwise determined. She reminded everyone of the upcoming half day orientation on January 27th in City Hall, Room 132 from 1:00-4:30 p.m.

It was noted that the Local Food Resource Hubs Network's stewardship council has reserved a position for a Food Council member. It holds monthly meetings the third Tuesday of each month from 6-7:30 p.m. Russ Henry indicated he already sits on that body and may be able to serve a dual role as the Food Council's representative. Gardening Matters is also requesting two Food Council members to sit on a panel with the St. Paul Food and Nutrition Commission at their March 31st Spring Resource Fair.

Finally, the group was made aware that the proposed local food sustainability targets that were developed during phase two of Homegrown are moving through the City Council committee tomorrow and then to the full City Council for approval on January 27th.

Upcoming Food Council Decision Points

Chair Beth Dooley noted upcoming decisions that will need to be made soon by the Food Council include selection of a co-chair and Executive Committee, adoption of formal bylaws,

and adoption of group norms. These will be discussed further at the retreat. Draft bylaws as discussed by the former Homegrown Task Force were distributed for review as a possible starting point for discussion at a future meeting.

Urban Agriculture Policy Plan Overview and Discussion

Robin Garwood, Council Staff, provided a brief overview of the history of the Urban Agriculture Policy Plan (UAPP) that passed in April of 2010. Phase I of HGM produced a set of 50+ recommendations for the City's local food policies and development of an UAPP was one of those recommendations. Since the passage of the UAPP, Aly Pennucci, lead staff on the Text Amendment, or implementation phase of the UAPP, indicated the work is scheduled to begin moving its way through standard Council processes beginning with the City's Planning Commission on Monday, January 23, 2012. It was also noted that the most difficult points have been around how to handle the sale of food grown the city and the 180 day limit on the number of days a hoop house can stay up as a temporary structure. Russ Henry brought up that hoop houses are needed for at least nine months of the year in Minnesota in order to extend the growing of fresh food in the City for as long as possible and to support farmers.

Robin Garwood also noted that on a parallel timeline, new compost regulations will also go before the council around February.

Chair Dooley summarized some potential options for the group to take to act in support of the Urban Agriculture Text Amendment. The group indicated a will to pass a resolution in support of the work and Gayle Prest moved the following language: "The Minneapolis Food Council hereby encourages the Minneapolis City Council, Mayor and Planning Commission to support and approve the Urban Agriculture text amendments as proposed by City staff to move forward on the Homegrown Minneapolis goal of creating a healthy, sustainable, local food system for all Minneapolis residents." Russ Henry seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Alison Rotel suggested that the Food Council further consider the idea of reevaluating the policy after a year. Questions were raised over whether other specific comments should be incorporated into the resolution, and it was suggested that a letter be drafted by Beth including the above simple resolution and a few additional comments including that the Food Council would like to participate in the evaluation of how the 180-day hoop house limit is working. All were in favor.

Chair Dooley agreed to draft the letter and circulate it via email for further comments from members and approval. There was also agreement that having members take the time to contact Planning Commission and council members separately would be worth the effort. A number of members indicated they planned to attend the January 23rd Planning Commission meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

January 18, 2012

Aly Pennucci
Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development
Planning Division
Room 300, Public Service Center
250 South 4th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Ms. Pennucci,

I'm writing on behalf of the Minneapolis Food Council in support of the Urban Agriculture text amendments that will come before the Planning Commission at its meeting Monday, January 23. This afternoon, the Food Council unanimously agreed upon the following resolution:

“The Minneapolis Food Council hereby encourages the Minneapolis City Council, Mayor and Planning Commission to support and approve the Urban Agriculture text amendments as proposed by City staff to move forward on the Homegrown Minneapolis goal of creating a healthy, sustainable, local food system for all Minneapolis residents.”

Passage of the text amendments is essential for updating land use regulations to support the goal of Homegrown Minneapolis in expanding our communities' ability to grow, process, distribute, eat, and compost more healthy, sustainable local foods. Adopting the amendments will help to put Minneapolis on par with Seattle, WA, Portland, OR, Kansas City, and other cities improving their local food systems to benefit public health, the economy and the environment, and to strengthen neighborhood communities.

In addition, the Food Council encourages the City to work with the state toward the goal of reconsidering the 180-day limit on hoop houses. In cooler years, eight months of continual hoop house use is necessary to maintain successful season extension efforts required to make farming on small urban lots financially feasible. Financially sustainable farming models are our best long-term hope of increasing the availability of healthy, local food for the people of Minneapolis. The Food Council will initiate and manage an evaluation of the 180-day limit in order to determine how this rule affects productivity for Minneapolis urban farmers and food gardeners. Given the unique experience and qualifications our Food Council members have in regards to these amendments, we look forward to being involved a review following this year's growing season as well as in a larger evaluation process.

Sincerely yours,

Beth Dooley, Co-chair
Minneapolis Food Council

DRAFT Norms (as discussed at 1-27-12 orientation)

What is the purpose of group norms? To optimize trust, safety, effectiveness.

Communication

- Treat each other with dignity and respect.
- Speak for yourself and not for the group.
- Avoid monopolizing conversations.
- Communicate with “I” statements, not “You” statements.
- No sidebar conversations.
- Stay open and listen with an ear to being influenced.
- Practice reserving judgment. Maintain a state of curiosity.
- Be cognizant of and avoid communication triangulation.
- Recognize that conflict situations hold the potential creative opportunities.
- Speak to issues, not to people.

Effective and efficient meetings

- Attend meetings and arrive on time.
- Notify staff and/or chair of unavoidable absences.
- Read agenda packet and materials before meeting; be prepared and informed.
- Be present and fully participate, using phones/email/tweeting only as needed to advance the work at hand.
- Stick to the agenda and self-monitor around not going off track.
- Co-chairs facilitate meetings starting on time, ending on time.
- All CEAC members must be recognized by chair and chair will recognize all CEAC members wanting to speak to ensure only one person talking at a time and optimize listening.
- Executive Committee sets monthly agenda.
- Agenda emailed by Wednesday prior to the meeting.
- Agenda changes after the initial agenda approval will be the chair prerogative.
- Hold each other accountable.
- Take minutes at all meetings.

Process

- Have fun.
- Sit next to someone new whenever possible.
- Make guests feel welcome and treat with respect.
- Maintain consciousness about who is missing from the room when making decisions (sector, population).
- In speaking with others, remember you are in diplomats for Homegrown/Food Council.
- Clear perceived conflicts of interest with the group.
- Make space for relationship building as needed.
- Ensure decision-making processes are clear, defined and transparent.

ELEMENTS OF A WORKING GROUP CHARTER¹

[WORKING GROUP NAME HERE]

A: Organizational Mission

Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative expanding our community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods.

B: Working Group Purpose

- A one-sentence purpose statement for the working group

C: Working Group Norms

- The ground rules that identify the appropriate behaviors for members

D: Working Group Member Roles

- Define individual members responsibilities for the successful operation of the working group

E: Key Responsibility Areas and Goals

- These are derived directly from the working group's purpose
- Defines the major functional areas involved in achieving the working group's purpose
- The measurable outcomes and timelines that are needed to be successful

F: Communication Strategies

- To whom the working group is responsible to communicate
- Frequency and format for communications

G: Decision Making, Authority and Accountability

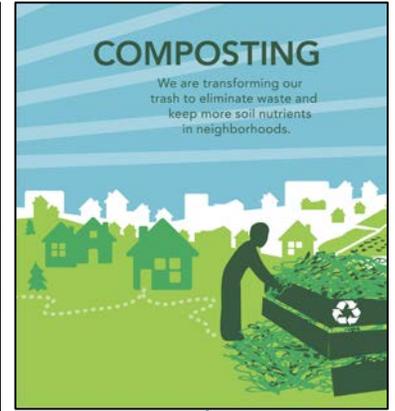
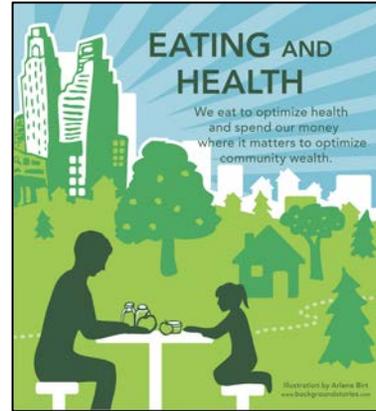
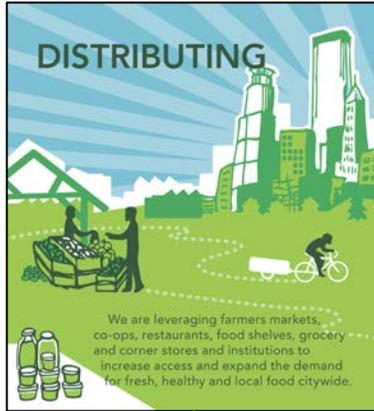
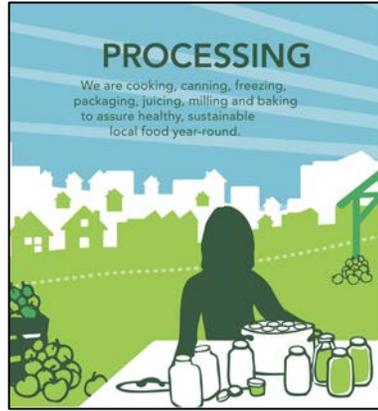
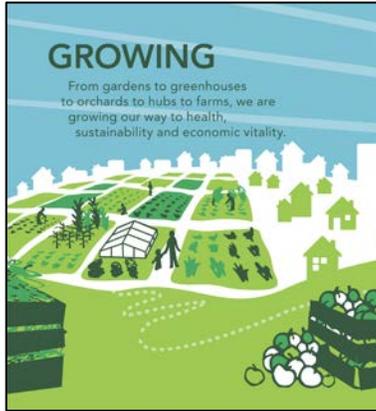
- The process the team uses to make decisions
- The scope of the working group's responsibility in decision making
- The strategies to ensure that commitments are kept

H: Resources

- The tangible materials and support needed by the working group to accomplish its goals.

¹ from the work of Ken Blanchard, Don Carwe and Eunice Parisi Carew

Homegrown Minneapolis



- Home gardens
- Community gardens
- School gardens
- Fruit & nut orchards and berry patches
- Hubs Network
- Garden Pooling
- Greenhouses
- Market gardens
- Local farms
- Garden Pooling
- Small food businesses

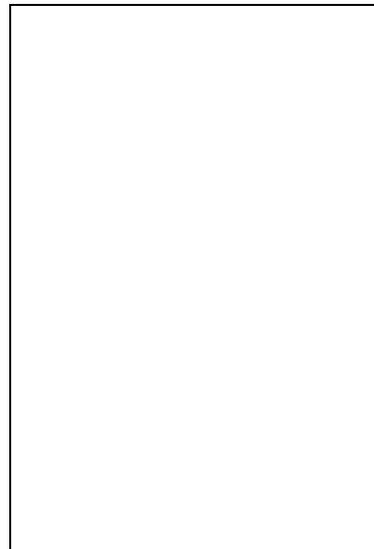
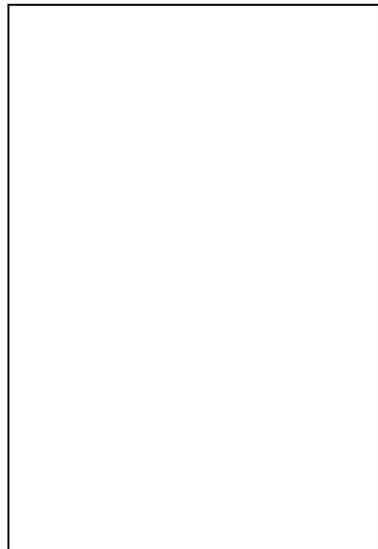
- Home cooking, canning and freezing
- Communal root cellars
- Community kitchens
- Small batch processors
- Medium size processors
- Large size processors

- Farmers markets
- Mini markets
- Food co-ops
- Food shelves
- Food supports/EBT/WIC
- Wholesalers
- Grocery stores
- Corner stores
- Restaurants
- Institutions
- Public Housing
- Vending
- Bike delivery

- Increase fruit and vegetable access and consumption
- Increase community cohesiveness
- Reduce toxins
- Reduce obesity
- Reduce chronic disease
- Increase exercise

- Prevent, reduce, reuse, recycle packaging
- Expand organics recycling (composting)
- Develop micro-scale composting systems
- Develop bike-to-garden composting practices

- Increase community gardens to 15 acres by 2014.



- All residents live within ¼ mile of healthy food source by 2015.

