

**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 11, 2014**  
**Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Headquarters –2117 W. River Road, Minneapolis**  
**5:00-7:00pm**

**Attendance:** Alison Rotel, Andrew Dahl, Beth Dooley, Bob Lind, Cam Gordon, DeVon Nolen, Erick Garcia Luna, Gayle Prest, Hashep Seka, Katie Lampi, Mustafa Sundiata, Pakou Hang, Patty Bowler, Rhys Williams, Russ Henry, Sammie Ardito Rivera, Zoe Hollomon

**Others in Attendance:** Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Art Serotoff (CANDO), Ben Somogyi (Council Member Lisa Bender's policy aide), Casey Dzieweczynski (CPED), Ginger Canon (Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board) Julie Ristau, Karl Hakanson (University of Minnesota Extension), Robin Garwood (City Council Member Cam Gordon's policy aide)

**Absent:** Jillia Pessenda-Bovino, Kris Igo, Omari Chatman, Aaron Reser

**Optional 4:30-5:00pm:** Ginger Canon of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) gave a presentation on the MPRB Urban Agriculture Activity Plan. After their recent public hearing on the draft plan, staff are revising the plan to add more emphasis on racial equity and it is expected to go before the MPRB Board on July 16. Nikki Fredrickson (MPRB) and Sarah Reuben (Minneapolis Health Department) also discussed MPRB's efforts on implementing their Healthy Food Policy which passed in 2013.

1. **Meeting called to order.** Russ Henry, co-chair, called the meeting to order. Introductions of guests were made. Patty Bowler made a motion to accept and approve May 2014 meeting minutes; it was seconded, and passed unanimously.

2. **Support for Honey Bee Ordinance Revisions.** Robin Garwood and Ben Somogyi reviewed the draft revisions and the group discussed proposed changes to the City's honeybee ordinance which would loosen written consent/notification requirements for hives situated on the ground. Alison Rotel made a motion, seconded by Zoe Hollomon that "the Food Council supports Council Member Lisa Bender's proposed amendment to the Minneapolis honeybee ordinance, which will remove the signature requirements for the keeping of honeybees, and empowers the Co-chairs to write a letter to the City Council communicating this position." Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Support for Seward Co-op's Friendship Store.** Alison Rotel reviewed the draft letter in support for the project. It recently was approved by the Minneapolis Planning Commission and the City is taking comments on the proposed project. One addition was made since the agenda with the draft letter went out based on Sammie Ardito Rivera's suggested edits requesting that the City Council encourage the Seward Coop to negotiate a Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with the community association and stakeholders. This new language was reviewed by both Sammie and the Seward Co-op since the City currently does not get involved in CBAs. Art Serotoff from CANDO, the nearby community organization, spoke encouraging the CBA language. Gayle Prest made a motion, seconded by Cam Gordon to approve the letter with the original amendment language. Motion passed.

4. **Discussion of Minneapolis Lyndale Avenue Farmers Market.** Julie Ristau gave an update on the Lyndale and Nicollet Mall Farmers Markets. She is working with the City to help bolster capacity, composition and other redesign concepts looking at other cities' large farmers markets, access and

social justice issues, reviewing current related city ordinances and contracts. Tamara, Beth Dooley and Aaron Reser are part of the Working Group. Pakou Hang asked that the farmers using the markets not be forgotten and emphasized the importance of a credit card portal. Rhys Williams also suggested looking at pricing, making sure that pricing is not too cheap since that forces other farmers to drop their prices – sometimes lower than actual costs. Zoe Hollomon stated she would be interested in providing additional feedback.

**5. Working Group Breakout Sessions.** Groups had an opportunity to meet during the meeting. Breakout session 1 included the following working groups: Homegrown Minneapolis Hub/Incubator, Staple Foods Ordinance and Land Access. Breakout session 2 included the following working groups: Animals, Organics and Outreach and Engagement. There were short updates by each of the working groups.

**6. Future Agenda items.** Should you have future agenda items, please email co-chairs Russ Henry and Omari Chatman, Tamara Downs Schwei, and Vish Vasani.

**7. Food Council Member and Guest updates.**

- The 2014 EBT at Farmers Markets and Market Bucks season is underway – all Minneapolis markets are participating except Augsburg (who felt they didn't have enough traffic to justify continuing to participate). Alison Rotel passed around brochures. Website: <http://www.centerforpreventionmn.com/newsroom/news-articles/farmers-markets-are-sprouting-up-statewide>
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released new funding opportunity announcements (FOA) "to advance the nation's chronic disease prevention and health promotion efforts." Six FOAs have been released. Hennepin County will apply for one of the FOAs titled Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH), which appears very similar to the work that has been occurring through SHIP and the Community Transformation Grant (CTG). Hennepin County Public Health will be submitting a proposal in partnership with Bloomington and Minneapolis health departments. The Public and the Food Council are invited to join us to provide input as we prepare the proposal on June 20. The grant application is due July 22.
- The University of Minnesota Extension Service is seeking funding to host a two day FamilyFarmed.org workshop on Food safety and post-harvest handling with Atina Diffley this fall/winter <http://www.familyfarmed.org/our-work/farmer-training/>
- Amendments to the City's Farmstand ordinance will likely be going to the Planning Commission in July. It would then proceed to the City Council. Currently farmstands may be allowed as a temporary use provided that such temporary farmstand shall only sell products grown onsite and shall not exceed a duration of fifteen (15) days in one calendar year. Such sales shall be limited to between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Farm stands shall be allowed only accessory to a lawfully established market garden, urban farm or community garden. Farmstands must be removed from the premises or stored inside a structure when not in operation. Only one farmstand is permitted per zoning lot. One temporary sign advertising only products grown on-site may be displayed during sales but must be removed from the premises or stored inside a structure when the farmstand is not in operation. Temporary farmstands shall not be located in the I3 zoning district.
- Lake Street Taco Tour is on June 27.

**8. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.** Motion was made and seconded to adjourn and passed unanimously.