

**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 12, 2014**  
**St. Olaf Community Campus – 2912 Fremont Avenue North, Minneapolis**  
**5:00-7:00pm**

**Attendance:** Patty Bowler, Omari Chatman, Cam Gordon, Andrew Dahl, Pakou Hang, Russ Henry, Zoe Holloman, Kristine Igo, Katie Lampi, DeVon Nolen, Gayle Prest, Aaron Reser, Sammie Andito Rivera, Jillia Pessenda Bovina, Alison Rotel, Hashep Seka, Mustafa Sundiata, Rhys Williams

**Others in Attendance:** Jane Shey (Homegrown Minneapolis Consultant), Vish Vasani (Prevention Specialist), Casey Dziejewczynski (CPED), Brian Noy, Karl Hakanson (Minnesota Extension), Robin Garwood (City Council Member Cam Gordon's policy aide)

**Absent:** Beth Dooley, Bob Lind

1. **Meeting called to order.** Russ Henry, mayor-appointed co-chair, called the meeting to order. Andrew Dahl moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Cam Gordon. Kris Igo moved to approve the February 2014 meeting minutes, seconded by Katie Lampi.

2. **Explanation of various Food Council procedures.** In order to propose an item for the Food Council agenda, notify the Homegrown Minneapolis coordinator (currently Jane Shey). S/he will then bring it forward to the Executive Committee – the group that is responsible for approving/setting the agenda for a given month's food council meeting. If you would like to bring forward a motion re: a particular action (e.g. Letter of Support), again notify the Homegrown Minneapolis coordinator who will then bring it to the Executive Committee. Following review, the Executive Committee can then circulate the given item to the rest of the food council. Reminder, the Executive Committee meets two Wednesday's after the Food Council meeting (or the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month).

3. **Explanation of how the City of Minneapolis operates.** (Robin Garwood, aide to Council Member Cam Gordon)

- The City has a Mayor and a City Council, selected by Minneapolis voters (residents). These parties are responsible for setting goals, budgets, and policies for the City; and adopting law changes
- Four (4) City Council Committees of importance for the Food Council: (1) Health, Environment and Community Engagement (HECE) – food inspections, health, Homegrown itself, sustainability and more; (2) Community Development and Regulatory Services (CDRS) – licensing, land use, etc.; (3) Ways and Means – money related items; and (4) Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) – state and federal legislative issues
- Key Departments relevant for Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council:
  - Health: environmental services, food inspections, grant-funded work (e.g. SHIP, etc. has made a lot of Homegrown Minneapolis work happen, along with initiatives in the city such as the Healthy Corner Store Program)
  - Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED): Housing (owns land, sets those policies); Economic Development (business development, including loans and additional support, and the Homegrown Minneapolis business center; Licensing, which is where mobile grocery work and the Staple Foods Ordinance work sits); Development Services (land use, design and preservation; zoning administration; and construction code services, which include building codes enforcement)
  - Coordinator: Sustainability Office (home of Homegrown Minneapolis), IGR, and Communications
  - Public Works: Solid Waste and Recycling (composting program), Water (for urban farms, community gardens, etc.)
  - Regulatory Services: Animal Care and Control (bees, fowl and animals), housing inspections
  - Other entities: parks, schools, County, State, and Federal

**4. Review of Roberts Rules Lite.** Russ Henry reviewed the Roberts Rules worksheet on basic elements such as how to make and amend a motion. Roberts Rules are intended to provide a fair, transparent way for members to engage in a democratic manner.

**5. Farmers Market Bill Update.** Katie Lampi gave an update on farmer market bills before the Minnesota Legislature this session. In the House, a compromise has been reached and it is now part of the Omnibus Ag Bill. In it is a farmers market definition, and rules for food product sampling and demonstration. There has not been formal action in the Senate. There was a conversation about the definition of Farmers Market and how they would be regulated.

**6. Lessons Learned as Homegrown Coordinator.** Jane Shey has been the part time Food Policy Coordinator for the past two years – she shared her thoughts on the job including the importance of spending time in the community and the need to listen. She also reflected on how change in the food system is happening at local not at federal level and the need for the Food Council to educate and advocate. Council members shared their positive experiences working with Jane.

**7. Continuation of Work Plan (2014-2015).** Kris Igo and Vish Vasani continued the discussion from the previous meeting on the Food Council's work plan. Vish passed out raw data from last month's meeting small group discussions and the December 2013 Open House dot survey. The group discussed possible specific activities/deliverables related to Healthy Food Access and Local Food Business "buckets". Members agreed that it would be helpful to independently think about potential deliverables for the 2014-2015 work plan prior to next month's meeting. This would help facilitate the discussion at our next meeting and ensure that we land on a solid work plan sooner rather than later, and get started. Vish will be sending out a follow up email. The next steps are to take back to Executive Committee and continue to improve the process for the April Meeting.

**8. Meeting Time for the Executive Committee.** The Executive Committee will meet the second Tuesday after the monthly Food Council meeting.

**8. Food Council member updates.**

- Karl Hakanson is new to Hennepin County Extension Educator for Agriculture and introduced himself.
- Brian Noy discussed his job at Augsburg College which uses food to connect the campus and the community through: free meals served in the community; student focused food shelf; community gardening; farmers markets; and educational programming. In the near future, he will be starting a job with Urban Ventures and will manage a greenhouse they are building.
- Cam Gordon mentioned that the Minneapolis City Council's Health Environment and Community Engagement Committee on March 17 will hold a public hearing regarding the reappointment of Minneapolis Health Department Commissioner Gretchen Musicant and encouraged persons to consider attending and speaking. Cam also mentioned that the March 18<sup>th</sup> Minneapolis City Council's Transportation and Public Works Committee will receive a presentation on March 18 about curbside composting. Jillia offered to draft a letter for the Food Council. Cam also mentioned a March 20<sup>th</sup> Zero Waste Community Forum and encouraged folks to attend.
- Gayle Prest alerted the group to the One Minneapolis grants available by the city, and described the upcoming City Trees Program (apple, cherry and serviceberry trees available at a discounted price).

**9. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.**