



**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, July 13th, 2016, 5:30-7:30 pm meeting
FOOD BUILDING
1401 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis**

Attendance: Russ Henry (co-chair), Zoe Hollomon, , Andrew Dahl, Miguel Goebel, Gayle Prest, Patty Bowler, Beth Dooley, Roe Reinberg, Jillia Pessenda, Pakou Hang, Ruhel Islam, Martin Brown, Cam Gordon, Allison Meyer, Kate Seybold (MPS Nutrition Services representative)

Others in Attendance: Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Sam Johnson (Homegrown Minneapolis intern), Melanie Heckt, Donald Warneke, Esther Seha, Joy Marsh Stephens, Karl Hakanson, Michael Dahl, Casey Silver, Kevin Priestley, Claire Stoscheck, Bob Lind

Absent: Saba Anduaem, MPRB Representative, Erick Garcia Luna, LaCora Bradford Kesti, Briana MacPhee, Latasha Powell, DeVon Nolen (co-chair), Caroline Devany, Journey Gosselin

Pre-meeting presentation: The Food Council and guests were led by Kieran Folliard on a tour of the FOOD BUILDING and its partner-operators. Currently the building houses three businesses: Red Table meats, The Lone Grazer cheesemaker, and Baker's Field flour milling and bread maker. The focus of all these companies is to provide high quality products from ingredients sourced sustainably and locally from producers who treat their animals humanely. The facility is still developing and more regular public tours will be available in the near future.

1) Introduction of members and guests, approval of the agenda and June meeting minutes Russ Henry called the meeting to order. Roe Reinberg motioned to approve the agenda and minutes and Allison Meyer seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

2) Update regarding Food Council member resignations and appointments Tamara Downs Schwei informed all present that the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board (MPRB) representative, Ginger Cannon, has left the Food Council following a transition from her position at MPRB to Salt Lake City, Utah. MPRB is working on filling Ginger's position and in the meantime Adam Arvidson will be our MPRB point person for the Food Council and Cliff Swenson will be the point person for the MPRB Urban Agriculture Implementation Team. Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) will be sending either Kate Seybold or Bertrand Weber as their representative while they transition to a new staff member for Andrea Northup's former position. Donald Warneke has been nominated as the candidate to replacement Magdalena Kaluza on the Food Council and approved by the City Council's HECE committee. His nomination is awaiting final approval by the Minneapolis City Council, scheduled to occur at the regular meeting on Friday, July 15th.

3) City of Minneapolis Racial Equity Efforts Joy Marsh Stephens, City of Minneapolis Manager of Equity and Inclusion, introduced the FC to her work at the City. Her position is new but is a continuation of a longstanding effort by the City of Minneapolis to identify and address issues around civil rights and equity. Her position is focused on the City of Minneapolis as an enterprise and how each department operates in an equitable way. Her task is to build capacity for equity and inclusivity in all of the City's departments. This translates to asking departments to include a racial lens on how projects get prioritized, consider equity in how they do community engagement, and take opportunities to partner with other organizations that could help expand the city's capacity for equitable and inclusive action.

4) Food Cart Ordinance Amendment Tamara Downs Schwei announced that the Food Cart Ordinance amendment passed the City Council, expanding the geographic areas food carts can operate and lowering the license fee to be in parity with food trucks. She thanked everyone who participated for making this happen and gave kudos to NEON for their work on leading this initiative and to licensing staff for how they worked with advocates to move it forward. The West Broadway corridor is approved to have food carts and other business corridors can be approved upon request.

5) Working Group Process Check-in and Breakout Sessions

5a) Healthy Food Access Group Question: Patty Bowler on behalf of the Healthy Food Access working group asked the FC as a whole to please consider their potential projects and advise on a path forward. In absence of a member able to



lead one of the proposed projects, the group is still finalizing a project on which to focus their efforts. Conversations around supporting the Minneapolis Health Department's (MHD) 'Rethink Your Drink' Campaign have produced the possibility that the Food Council work with MHD on the project in an advisory capacity.

5b) Breakout Sessions

6) Working Group Updates

Land Access: The group will be meeting to talk about creating a survey and preparing information for a general review of CPED's garden lease program being piloted this year. As part of the information collection, the group will be developing and performing an assessment of remaining available lots.

Healthy Food Access Policies: The group decided to explore supporting the 'Rethink your Drink' campaign with Minneapolis Health Department and may also explore how they can produce a 'state of the plate' report.

Local Food Procurement: The group intends to interview representatives of the Minneapolis Convention Center and Target Center to learn what can be done to have the facilities—as city owned entities—procure more local foods. The group also intends to set up similar interviews with US Bank Stadium and Target Field representatives. The group plans to have a template with questions in the next two weeks. They intend to produce a report or brief from the findings and create a database of local growers & buyers for the facilities to use in future purchases.

Local Food & Business Innovation: The group did not meet this session and Journey, the group's leader, is out of town. The work is in development.

Parks and Food: The group intends to research examples of organic parks, golf courses, and facilities to help inform the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board of what is possible in terms of eliminating dangerous chemicals—specifically pesticides—from our parks. In terms of growing food in our parks, Martin Brown will be co-hosting a presentation and meeting about the growing that Waite House has been doing on parkland next to their East Phillips office, and gathering feedback about the proposed new community garden policy in development at the MPRB.

7) Member Updates

- Miguel Goebel announced that the Midtown Market will be having an Open Streets festival on July 24th from 11am – 5pm, including a breakdance competition.
- Zoe Hollomon suggested the Food Council draft a public statement on the death of Philando Castile that recognizes his good work in youth development and food work.
- Russ Henry announced that the chicken keeping training presented by UMN Extension with Wayne Martin in partnership with Karl Hakanson at UROC and Homegrown Minneapolis was a great success. A follow-up training in South Minneapolis is in the works.
- Zoe Hollomon announced that MFAN is meeting August 17th to talk and plan on how to bring equity towards the larger collection of organizations participating in MFAN as a whole.
- Tamara Downs Schwei asked all FC members to please complete an email survey sent out by Janice Barbee about her workshops on equity with the FC last fall and this past February.
- Ruhel Islam was recognized for being featured with Gandhi Mahal on the tv show 'Drive-ins, Diners, & Dives'.
- Michael Dahl announced that the MN Food Charter Network is beginning to collect stories from Food Policy Groups across the state to create a story bank of shared knowledge to help spread mutual support and expertise around all groups working on food policy.

7:50pm Meeting adjourned.

Next Food Council Meeting: Wednesday, August 10, 5:30-7:30 pm Food Council meeting 5-5:30 pm Gardening Matters presentation. Gardening Matters, 310 E 38th St., Minneapolis (Room J)