



**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes  
Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 5:30-7:30 pm meeting  
Minneapolis Public School Nutrition Center  
2500 Bloomington Ave South, Minneapolis**

**Attendance:** Russ Henry (co-chair), Zoe Hollomon, Magdalena Kaluza, Andrea Northup, Saba Anduaem, Latasha Powell, DeVon Nolen (co-chair), Allison Meyer, Martin Brown, Andrew Dahl, Caroline Devany, Journey Gosselin, Briana MacPhee, Ginger Cannon, Miguel Goebel, Gayle Prest, Patty Bowler

**Others in Attendance:** Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Sam Johnson (Homegrown Minneapolis intern), Cindy Weckwerth, Michael Dahl (MN Food Charter Network), Teresa Gumerman, Melanie Heckt (Waite House), Oscar Martinez, Donald Warneke, Claire Stoscheck, Nick Campbell, Robin Garwood, Tracy Roloff, Esther Seha, Kate Seybold (MPS Nutrition Services), Karl Hakanson

**Absent:** Beth Dooley, Cam Gordon, Erick Garcia Luna, LaCora Bradford Kesti, Roe Reinberg, Jillia Pessenda, Pakou Hang, Ruhel Islam

**Pre-meeting presentation:** Andrea Northup presented to the Food Council about the Minneapolis Public School's (MPS) Culinary and Nutrition Services Center and Farm-to-School Program.

**1) Introduction of members and guests, approval of the agenda and March meeting minutes** Russ Henry called the meeting to order. DeVon Nolen motioned to approve the agenda and minutes and Journey Gosselin seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.

## **2) Update: proposed City and State ordinances and legislation**

- **Food Carts Ordinance Amendment** Patty Bowler and Tamara Downs Schwei informed the FC the proposed food cart ordinance amendment to allow for operation in designated places on West Broadway corridor and other business corridors on case by case basis continues to move forward, but a healthy food cart component is on hold at this time due to limited capacity and resources. Food carts will not be allowed within a certain distance from parks and schools, unless specifically invited. Councilmember Blong Yang is sponsoring the ordinance amendment, which was proposed by NEON in partnership with Kindred Kitchen.
- **Food Shelves Ordinance Amendment** Russ Henry and Tamara Downs Schwei informed the FC about a new Food Shelf Ordinance being considered by the City Council. The ordinance would expand where food shelves can operate and who can operate them. CM Glidden is promoting the ordinance change after putting together a working group on the issue. The ordinance passed through committee and will be considered by the City Council on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2016.
- **Good Food Access Fund (GFAF)** Patty Bowler informed the FC that legislation supporting the GFAF did not make it into the Minnesota House of Representatives budget proposals though it did make it into the Minnesota Senate budget proposals through the Equity Committee. Currently the MN Senate is considering \$5,000,000 in funding. There are still efforts being made to show support for the fund. Action alerts are going out to supporters of the fund to contact their legislators.
- **Urban Agriculture Pilot Program** DeVon Nolen informed the FC that the legislation introduced by Karen Clark in the MN House of Representatives and sister legislation in the Senate were not funded. There is still hope but it will be difficult to make it happen this session. Zoe Hollomon asked that the FC take time to learn policies and processes to better understand the inner workings of state politics.

**3) Introduction and overview: City of Minneapolis Innovation Team** Tracy Roloff and Nicholas Campbell are part of the City's Innovation Team. The innovation team was developed to help the city focus on improving racial equity in programs and services. They work primarily with departments to define problems, articulate what they can solve, and good outcomes. They are in their second The team emphasizes being data-oriented in all stages of their process.



**4) Breakout groups: Food Council policy priorities for 2016** Tamara Downs Schwei reviewed the working group priority process and next steps. The Food Council then broke into working group areas for discussion of potential activities, feasibility, impact, priorities, and leadership. Due to limited time discussion time, several groups need to further refine. Local Food Procurement (Zoe-lead)

Goal: Leverage publicly funded institutions' purchasing power to procure a larger percentage/more local food.

Method: To first conduct research on the topic.

- Local Food Business Innovation (Journey-lead?)

Goals: (still being refined)

- 1) Explore 'bring your own bottle' (BYOB) policy as a tool for entrepreneurial restaurateurs to expand the appeal of their events.
- 2) Advocate for farm vehicle parking to be allowed on city streets, in front of homes (similar to rule change St. Paul just passed).

Method: Research BYOB policies in other cities and advocate for farm vehicle goal.

- Land Access (Martin and Donald lead)

Goals:

- 1) Support review of garden lease program processes to identify where the program can improve.
- 2) Research strategies on getting privately owned land into agricultural easements.

Method: Pursue feedback from current lessees in the City lot leasing program. Twin Cities Agricultural Land Trust (TCALT) is open to helping with data collection.

- Parks and Food (Russ and Miguel lead)

Goals: Eliminate all pesticide use in the Minneapolis City Parks

Method: Attend the MPRB's Urban Ag planning meetings to learn more about their current activities. Advocate for no pesticides in relation to possible foraging amendments being considered by the MPRB.

- Healthy Food Access Policies & Projects leader- TBD

Goals: still need to be further refined & prioritized & identify leader

- 1) Food Donations (Roe?)
- 2) Sugar Sweetened beverages (MHD- Patty?)
- 3) Mpls Cooks! Project (Journey)

State of the Plate- possibly something could occur as part of open house?

Method: TBD

- Farmers Markets (on hold, could be 2 task forces)

- 1) Lyndale Market- development that benefits broad community
- 2) Policy and investment support for Minneapolis farmers markets (Miguel)
  - Wait until after farmers market collaborative strategic planning this fall and first phase of metrics collection to better define what a specific task might be



## 5) Food Council member and guest updates; future agenda items

- Magdalena Kaluza: Cyclists event
- Saba Andualem: Common Roots is having an Open House on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm
- Journey Gosselin: Next month's FC meeting will be at the City Food Studio where all will be making food together.
- DeVon Nolen: West Broadway Farmers Market will open June 17<sup>th</sup> at a new location (see HGM map) and they accept EBT, as well as \$10 market bucks match.
- Andrea Northup: MPS needs volunteers for upcoming taste tests. Learn more on their website. Also, Andrea will be leaving her position with MPS in June to move to Colorado and work for USDA regional office.
- Miguel Goebel: Midtown, Minneapolis, Mill City and other Farmers Markets are now open for the season. Go support them!
- Claire Stoscheck: Poster and report on Good Food Procurement Policies with specific recommendations is now available. Please contact her for more information.
- Martin Brown: Waite House hosting plant distribution event on Saturday.
- Zoe Hollomon: MFAN is looking for more partnering organizations. Learn more on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> event at UROC.

## 6) Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

Next Food Council Meeting: Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at City Food Studio, 3722 Chicago Ave S Minneapolis  
Presentation and Demo 5:00-6:00; Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm