



**Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 9th, 2016, 5:30-8:00 pm meeting
Theodore Wirth Chalet Fireside Room
1301 Theodore Wirth Parkway, Minneapolis**

Attendance: Russ Henry, Ginger Cannon, Andrea Northup, Saba Anduaem, Pakou Hang, Latasha Powell, DeVon Nolen, Allison Meyer, Miguel Goebel, Patty Bowler, Beth Dooley, Martin Brown, Magdalena Kaluza, Andrew Dahl, Caroline Devany, Journey Gosselin, Briana MacPhee

Others in Attendance: Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Sam Johnson (Homegrown Minneapolis intern), Robin Garwood (City Council Aide, Ward 2), Peter Nixon (UMN), Kate Gurke (UMN), Siri Simons (City of Mpls), Donald Warneke (UMN Extension), Linda Rawson, Rich M., Pete Huff (IATP), Emily Minge, Matthew Peterson (gardener), DJ Forbes (The Trust for Public Land), Lily Osborne (grad Student), Melanie Heckt (Waite House intern), Callie Recknagel (UMN Extension), Vish Vasani (Minneapolis Health Department), Riz Pakasim (Gandhi Mahal)

Absent: Cam Gordon, Erick Garcia Luna, Gayle Prest, LaCora Bradford Kesti, Roe Reinberg, Ruhel Islam, Zoe Hollomon, Jillia Pessenda

Pre-meeting presentation: Pakou Hang presented information about HAFA (Hmong American Farmers Association.) Pakou is Executive Director and gave a comprehensive overview of her organization's activities.

1) Introduction of guests and members, approval of the agenda and February meeting minutes Russ Henry called the meeting to order. Visitors and members introduced themselves. The minutes from the February 2016 meeting and March 2016 agenda were approved unanimously.

2) Discussion: Food Council group and meeting norms Tamara Downs Schwei led a conversation establishing group meeting norms. The following suggestions were generated:

- Start meetings with introductions of guests and members.
- Listen to understand first (when conflict arises) and address with leadership after.
- Use respectful dialogue and be present in the meeting (& limit cell phone use).
- Articulate a group facilitation plan: track who raised hands for comment and keep order when many members want to speak.
- Explain any acronyms.
- Step up and step back when in conversation.
- Start and end meetings on time.
- Come to the meetings prepared by reviewing relevant materials.
- Be mindful of cultural inclusivity.
- Default to a positive and open-minded reaction when ideas that may have been vetted and dismissed in the past come up again.
- Park disagreements when they are derailing meeting. If challenge is ongoing, address with leaders.
- Ask questions.
- Actively participate.

3) Presentation/review: Open House dot survey results Sam Johnson and Tamara Downs Schwei shared the summary findings of the 2015 Food Council (FC) Open House dot survey. The dot survey explored issues and opportunities that community members in attendance at the Open House would like the FC to address.



4) Review: Summary from Food Council skill sets/assets & affiliations activities Sam Johnson and Tamara Downs Schwei handed out compilations of the assets and affiliations FC members submitted in February to help members understand the networks they are a part of and the assets each bring to the table and share.

5) Presentation and Discussion: City Department overview related to food policy Robin Garwood presented a summary of the functions of the City of Minneapolis as it relates to the FC's work. He explained how the city functions and highlighted City Departments who have functions related to food in Minneapolis.

6) Discussion: Eco system of the food policy work from organizational and community perspective DeVon Nolen summarized how to bring the 'hat' of being a Food Council member into the other work spheres of members. She gave examples of how to keep in mind how things in those other spheres affect HGM and food work.

7) Discussion: Food Council policy priorities for 2016 Vish Vasani and Tamara Downs Schwei led the group in a strategic priorities discussion that will be a 2-part discussion. Vish distributed a work plan worksheet and members and guest contributed their ideas for priorities. The goal is to have 4-5 working groups emerge from the exercises.

8) Discussion and Resolution of Support: Food Carts Ordinance Amendment Tamara Downs Schwei and Robin Garwood informed the FC of a proposed food cart ordinance amendment, brought to the City's attention by NEON in partnership with Kindred Kitchen/Appetite for Change. The amendment would allow food carts to be allowed in certain areas outside of downtown district (possibly pilot areas like West Broadway business corridor). The amendment would also lower the fee for food carts from \$920 to be the equivalent of food trucks license fee. Andrea Northup asked if there could be language that protects school grounds from being inundated with food carts. Beth Dooley recommended we look into other programs already existing. Patty Bowler recommended we bring together collaborators so we can craft the language more thoughtfully. Patty Bowler, Russ Henry, Andrea Northup, Beth Dooley, Journey Gosselin, DeVon Nolen, and Ginger Cannon volunteered to look more into these questions and enhancements. Pakou Hang voted to move the resolution and Ginger seconded. It was approved unanimously with the following amendments:

- 1) Amendment to point #3 of the current resolution "...beverages, especially in proximity to schools and park zones."
- 2) Additional language "The FC requests to work with Licensing staff to explore options including incentivizing or requiring healthy food options, especially within a certain distance of schools and parks."

9) Discussion and Resolution of Support: Good Food Access Fund Patty Bowler introduced a resolution of support for the Good Food Access Fund Campaign. Proposed legislation supporting the fund is to be introduced shortly at the state legislature. The City of Minneapolis is already in support. Pakou Hang asked that the resolution be amended to include equity language in support of fair/higher prices for local producers. Members asked for more time to understand the resolution and fund, and how best to move forward. The resolution was tabled.

10) Food Council member and guest updates; future agenda items

1. Tamara Downs Schwei – Green Zone advisory group update (referenced e-mail sent to Food Council), NCR Community Connections Conference
2. Russ – Transition to organics in parks public comment at MPRB meeting, \$15 minimum wage event
3. Pakou – Tedx talk at Bachelor Farmer, HAFA CSA
4. Donald - Met Council Regional parks event about equity and also food in the parks. He will update the FC.
5. Robin – support CM Cam Gordon's bag ban ordinance
6. Magdalena - Nourish Series continues at Hope Community

11) Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm