



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

5:30-7:30 pm Food Council meeting

5:00-5:30 pre-meeting presentation by Karl Hakanson, University of MN Extension Educator
University of MN UROC, 2001 Plymouth Ave N, Minneapolis

Members in Attendance: Allison Meyer, Beth Dooley, Cam Gordon, DeVon Nolen, Donald Warneke, Ellen Kennedy, Halston Sleets, Journey Gosselin, Kate Seybold, Latasha Powell, Mai Yang, Patty Bowler, Zoe Hollomon.

Members Absent: Andrew Dahl, Briana MacPhee, Caroline Devany, Jillia Pessenda, LaCora Bradford Kesti, Martin Brown, Miguel Goebel, Pakou Hang, Ruhel Islam, Saba Anduaem.

Others in Attendance: Tamara Downs Schwei, Bengi Durgunoglu, Arianna Reid, Sebastiana Cervantes, Erin Rupp, Karl Hakanson, Takayla Lightfield, Eric Avery, Yeng Moua, Sheri Handy, Clarice Carvalhosa, Callie Recknagel, Anna Klever, Phoebe Eisenbeis, Jim Doten, Jackie Billhymer.

Prior to the meeting, Takayla Lightfield, Community Nutrition Educator, gave a presentation about her role at EFNEP. Next, Karl Hakanson gave a presentation about his role as University of MN Extension Educator.

1) Introduction of members and guests, approval of the agenda and May meeting minutes (Attachment 1) (Latasha Powell)

The Food Council and guests introduced themselves. Journey made a motion to approve the June agenda and the May minutes. DeVon seconded the motion. The June agenda and May minutes were approved (unanimously).

2) Supporting pollinators in the City

Erin Rupp gave a presentation about the work of her organization, Pollinate Minnesota. She explained how critical bees are to the food system, and how Pollinate Minnesota plays a role in their preservation.

This was followed up by a presentation by Sebastiana Cervantes, who works for the Minneapolis Health Department. She and her department have been working on pollinator-friendly projects including a current partnership with the Farmers Markets of Minneapolis and Sustainability office to distribute seedless (wildflower seed balls) at the farmers markets for pollinator week.

3) Filming: Food Council recruitment video (Mitchell Kampf)

Members share brief response to question: "Why did you join the Food Council?"

Mitchell Kampf from Minneapolis City Clerk's office filmed Food Council members to produce a promotional video to help recruit prospective Food Council members.



**4) Presentation, discussion and vote: MPRB Urban Agriculture Activity Plan Draft Proposed Community Garden Policy and Ordinance Revision (Ellen Kennedy)
Draft letter to MPRB Board of Commissioners (Donald Warneke)**

Ellen Kennedy shared background about the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Urban Agriculture Activity Plan and related implementation team and the proposed ordinance revision and community garden policy to support implementation of the activity plan. The Food Council's land access working group drafted a letter to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board of Commissioners to show their support for improving food access in the parks and specifically the urgent adoption of the new community garden policy and ordinance revision. Council Member Gordon expressed his support for the letter and proposed a few edits, which he suggested the Executive Committee could approve in final form. Beth made a motion to approve the amended letter as proposed by Council Member Gordon. Journey seconded the motion. With the edits, the letter was approved unanimously.

5) Update: Food Council recruitment & application period (Tamara Downs Schwei)

Tamara invited Food Council members and guests to participate in filming for the promotional video that will be used to recruit prospective members. DeVon mentioned that this video will be useful because it puts a face to the Food Council, and will help create a social media presence. Those who participated wrote why they joined the Food Council on a poster board, and were filmed holding the poster and sharing their phrase or word.

6) Discussion: Domestic fair trade event, June 21 at Birchwood Café (Allison Meyer)

Allison shared news about an event at Birchwood Café, which is hosted by the Domestic Fair Trade Association (DFTA). The event aims to share the DFTA's work in building domestic supply chains dedicated to the principles of fairness and equality.

7) Update: Open House / outreach and engagement for 2017 (Tamara, All)

Tamara shared that a large ad hoc committee of Food Council met to discuss the open house and its future. The group discussed the niche and value the Food Council brings and agreed the event should be designed to maximize and focus on this food policy value. The subcommittee proposes moving the event from December potentially to March or April 2018 to achieve better alignment with growing season and planning to focus on identifying potential policy goals, ideally involving community members, City staff and policymakers. There is also a need for the event to be manageable to effectively plan and implement. A committee is proposed to work on planning this event including Food Council members interested and other key partners. The Food Council agreed to proceed with this plan.

8) Updates: Food Council working groups and task forces (All)

No substantial updates from working groups.

9) Food council member and guest updates; future agenda items (DeVon Nolen)



Tamara mentioned the City was beginning to look at policy positions for the 2018 session in advance of the League of MN Cities meetings and she asked the Food Council to keep her apprised of any new food-system related legislative proposals they are involved in or aware of.

Donald shared that Market Bucks was going live for this year's operation.

Council Member Gordon mentioned a hearing on Monday, June 19 regarding an amendment to the food code in Section 188.110 entitled "Selling, sorting on streets," to allow licensed food vendors to sell limited, non-potentially hazardous food from sidewalks.

10) Meeting adjourned (DeVon Nolen)

Zoe made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Patty seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Food Council Meeting:

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

Powderhorn Park Rec Center, multipurpose room, 3400 15th Ave S, Minneapolis

Presentation from 5:00 – 5:30pm; Meeting from 5:30 – 7:30pm