



Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Detroit Food Policy Council

Minutes

- 1) Welcome and Roll Call
Eileen Haraminac, Alex Hill, Lindsay Pielack, Nick Leonard, Mimi Pledl, Sandra Turner-Handy, Jerry Anne Hebron, Atieno Nyar Kasagam, Zaundra Wimberley (phone)
- 2) Review and Acceptance of April and June Meeting Minutes
Corrections made
Quorum reached. **April meeting minutes accepted. June meeting minutes accepted.**
- 3) Remarks from the Chair
Executive Committee worked to get more council members to the meeting this month and will reevaluate ways to increase council members' participation.
We received the grant documents that were in progress
Financial report was given by Jerry Hebron, a written report was distributed and reviewed. An anonymous donor helped us cover the gap in funding, Jerry Hebron thanked the donor. We will distribute the report electronically.
Financial report accepted
- 4) Sustainable Detroit Forum – Emile Lauzzana, U.S. Green Building Council
USGBC does LEED certification for building and is now looking to engage more buildings outside the upper 20% of real estate market. Forum in Detroit has focused on LEED certification in past. USGBC wants to expand the circle and talk about all aspects of sustainability. Multiple organizations are partnering to host this year's forum. Emile gave details about this year's summit, invited organizations to submit proposals for presentations about sustainability projects, and purchase exhibit booths
Discussion: will there be any active greening projects in the space?
There will be some temporary projects
Is there a price for attendance and are there scholarships?
There is an Eventbrite set up to buy tickets, and discounts and scholarships are available
October 25
Emile will send some links for where to get tickets and information.
Is green and healthy homes involved?
Not sure, but please share the request for presenters.
- 5) Water and Agriculture Demo Project– Lindsay Pielack and Nick Leonard
Keep Growing Detroit has been looking at how to make sure they are responding to needs of gardeners and farmers who need help supplying water. They have done education and skill building with rain barrels. Then they moved on to freestanding water catchment system. They have partnered

with the Sierra Club to provide additional education resources; and are working with Sierra Club and Friends of the Rouge on Rain Garden installations. Issue of water access have also been important. More recently the change in water assessment has been a concern for farmers and gardeners. Their current strategy is to continue to build on two things: support residents to be good stewards of water, provide policy support and education. They would like to install a weather station at Plum Street market garden. KGD is also working on continuing to build better water infrastructure by building water catchment on site, improving soil quality, supporting rain garden initiative, providing technical support to growers who need help with water access. Want to deal with drainage charges and larger conversation of water access and good stewardship of water resources. One issue is making sure agriculture is recognized as process when decisions are made like drainage credits for drainage fees. Working with a consultant that will use microdivers to measure water collection and usage, underwater drain monitoring, and rainfall simulation. Want to use the information that is gathered to influence policy decisions about what does or does not qualify for credits, and how we protect our water and make sure it is available for food production. Tepfirah has been the lead about policy around water and land access.

GLELC has canvassed what other cities have done and how Detroit compares. They have looked at what impervious surfaces on farms and gardens that increase the costs for drainage fees.

Discussion: water was one of the issues that was brought up as one of the major issues that needs policy support, and we want to know where there is need for support, partnership, and complimentary activities. Winona will talk with Lindsay and Nick on opportunities for funding that DFPC can partner on.

Suggestion that KGD reach out to the Water Warriors that are working on water access, because the farmers who are struggling with access to water for production and some of the same people who are struggling with access to water for all other needs.

Oakland Ave. has been collecting data on rainfall and is looking to work with other groups. It is also connected to land acquisition because people are purchasing vacant lots and getting huge bills for drainage fees.

MEC is also working on water issues including affordability. They are developing a toolkit for how to advocate around water issues.

Olivia has been coordinating a water working group, and we need council members' participation to help inform the work of this group, Monday Aug. 14 at DFPC office.

6) Committee Reports

a. Fund Development Committee

i. 3rd Annual Fundraiser: Food Power Awards

Our annual fundraiser and awards are coming up. The Golden Beet Awards are now the Food Power Awards. There is an organization in Chicago that has trademarked the name Golden Beet Awards and they have been using it for six years.

The event will be October 19 at Trinosophes.

We need more nominations. We will open voting online next month for our nominees.

We need more nominations. The categories are for profit, non-profit, individual, and youth. We will also have a people's choice that people can use to nominate someone.

We have the paperwork for our grant from Kellogg completed, but our grant is less than we anticipated. We need to look for funders who are aligned with our mission.

Winona is meeting with the program officer of the Ford Foundation.

Discussion: reach out to C.S. Mott Foundation.

b. Research and Policy Committee

The Farm Bill is coming up for reauthorization in 2018 and we are touching base with others who will be working on Farm Bill advocacy. We will invite a group to plan a series of meetings that will culminate at the summit to education and build advocacy about the farm bill in the city.

Food waste committee is waiting for the results of the West Village Business Owners Association to participate in a pilot program that will match small restaurants to food rescue services. We are also looking at doing an audit with GLELC.

The Land Use Subcommittee is working on forming our major asks into a letter tailored to DLBA. We will have a check in call tomorrow.

Amy is working on the food report with Alex that will highlight some of the work that is going on around the city

Beyond the Plate – we had more than 30 signatures on the letter that went to the school board and school superintendent. Winona is setting up a meeting with Dr. Viti and Amy will follow up to make sure the letter was shared with all school board members at their last meeting.

We are hosting an urban agriculture tour for Congressman Conyers on Thursday. He has recently introduced legislation to protect pollinators and we will visit Brightmore Farmway

c. Education and Engagement Committee

The Executive Committee wants to encourage everyone to look for opportunities to be ambassadors of DFPC. Kibibi prepared talking points to help council members summarize how DFPC operates when sharing information with your networks. We also have brochures available.

We have had a few changes in our council roster in the past few months. The updated council roster is included in your board packs.

Two of our education activities we want to bring back are notes from the field reports from our sector representatives at our council meetings, and a weekly newspaper column to be published in The Michigan Chronicle. We will take volunteers to sign up for the first four weekly articles, starting August 30, and we will randomly assign people to the rotation for the remaining article. Also on the sign-up sheet is the notes from the field schedule for the next three meetings, and we will assign presenters for the rest of the meetings for the year. Kibibi will send the full schedules for both items out by email, and will send reminders to folks when their turn is coming up on the rotation, please let me know as soon as you are able if you have a conflict with your publish or presentation date.

Detroit Food 2018 will be held March 8-9 at CCS's Ford Conference Center

Our theme: "It takes a village: reclaiming power in our food spaces:

We also want to pay homage to original food summit title and our food power awards

We discussed our strategic alliances and how we move forward with scaling up the summit. In the past we have had such alliances with breastfeeding, and other topics. We have the capacity for 5-6 tracks. The thought is we will hold tracks based around policy, building capacity in food system, culture, economics, wellness, and the ongoing issues we have been addressing in our work such as land and water. We discussed including network meetings, and we want them to align with the goals of the summit. We need to increase participation, registrations, and sponsorships. We will bundle together sponsorship opportunities for the next three years, and the third year will be our 10th anniversary.

We are looking for volunteers for the event, we are looking for everything. We will be more strategic about how we put out a call for help. We will put together a host committee and planning committee. We are looking for sponsorships and support.

Discussion: board participation needs to be strong.

We need to develop sponsorship prospects and fundraising ideas.

We will have a full debrief of the summit visioning session at the EEC meeting and setting a time for summit planning meetings.

The grocery store coalition is working on a stamp of approval that will be given to grocery stores. Stores are currently being surveyed, and the group is developing a strategy to engage community groups and store owners in strengthening food access programs.

We have four speakers who are being trained through our speakers bureau to give presentations about community food security and about DFPC. Volunteers with the speakers bureau will be giving presentations in the fall and winter.

Presentations and events:

Kibibi gave a lecture to students at UofD Law School who were learning about Urban Agriculture, and we partnered with ROC-MI and several other organizations to produce the Night Out For Safety and Liberation Detroit event. We will be tabling at the Jewish Food Festival on Sunday, August 27, and presenting a panel discussion on community food security at 3pm. If you are available to volunteer at the resource table please sign up on the volunteer sheet that was sent electronically. Feeding the 5K one page description is included in board packs.

Reminders:

Our monthly newsletter goes out the last week of every month, if you have information or announcements that you would like to include in the newsletter send them to me by the 23rd-25th of each month.

EEC meeting, Aug. 16, 6pm

d. Youth Leadership Development Committee

Our youth summer program is about half way through. We are participating in a youth health fair in the Fitzgerald neighborhood. It's posted in our social media, Aug. 19.

Our students are connected to the WSU Health Pipeline

We are starting to plan for our next youth summit.

e. Nominating committee

The nominating committee will meet soon. We have several seats that are up for reelection.

Kibibi will send the nominating form

7) Reports from Governmental Representatives

a. Health Department – Alex Hill

Alex Hill is the food access manager. They are working with the office of sustainability.

Focused on cost and affordability, food safety. WIC is biggest food program run by the Health Department. They are partnering with the hospitals to do onsite enrollment. The food safety division is working to streamline the process for food business licensing.

b. Executive Branch Report

Seat needs to be filled, it will probably be filled by someone from the Office of Sustainability.

8) Director's Report

Fund development – working with fund development consultant to improve donation campaign and looking at doing a social media campaign to raise money for the youth summit.

Beyond the Plate – our role is to support the work that the staff at Office of School Nutrition is recognized, supported, and has a champion to make sure it continues. The person who was Betti

Wiggins' superior is also gone, and we want to meet with the person that will be moving into the position

CURES is working on issues of water and we are partnering with them to make sure food is included in the event

Environmental Agenda is working on a voters guide, and there are some food related issues in the voters guide. The beta version is out and they are in final states of approving the questions. Winona will let everyone know when it is up

We were on the planning committee of the Hope Starts Here initiative. The report was passed around. Winona will participate in a food policy council roundtable hosted by the city for a livable future. Winona met with Joel, director of the Office of Sustainability. Their internal meeting has been working on some things that we would be able to help them with. We want to make sure we are able to collaborate more closely with them as they work on food security. Winona will meet with them again, and Sandra and Malik will also attend the meeting.

9) Next Meeting – October 10, 2017, Location TBD

10) Public Comments

Mariah Conley – was part of a food policy council in Orlando and new to Detroit, dietician, interested in education

Ganeva – grew up in Detroit and wants to get involved, interested in youth development

Colin – interested in nutrition and food policy

Gracon – works at MEC, wants to learn about food advocacy in Detroit

Ilana – hazon, putting on Jewish Food Festival, works with Oakland Ave

Jonathan – membership organizer at ROC-MI, want to increase our links with DFPC and work on fair labor practices in food system, increasing commitment and engagement of employers, COLORS restaurant is demonstration of fair workers conditions

11) Announcements

Indigenous African Dinners series, next dinner is Friday August 11, 8 seats available, \$40

Jewish food festival, Sunday August 27, visit DFPC there

12) Adjournment