Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 12, 2017
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Eastern Market Corporation
Minutes

1) 5:30 – 5:45 PM Food & Networking

2) Welcome and Roll Call: Patrice Brown, Diane Cress, Kevin Frank, Clara Gamalski, Carla Underwood, Lindsey Pielack, Alex Hill, Joel Howrani Heeres
   Staff: Winona Byrum (phone), Kibibi Blount-Dorn, Olivia Henry, Amy Kuras also present

3) Remarks from the Chair – not present

4) Election Results/Introduction of the new council members
   New members
   Patrice Brown – Wholesale Food Distributors
   Diane Cress – Nutrition and Well Being
   Kristi Evans – Colleges and Universities
   Kevin Frank – K-12 Education
   Clara Gamalski – Institutional Food
   Jonathan Roberts – Food Industry Workers
   Carla Underwood – At Large, Youth

5) Review and Acceptance of the August Meeting Minutes – corrections made, no quorum to accept

6) Notes from the Field – Lindsay Pielack gave Notes from the field: KGD believes sustainable agriculture has a place in every neighborhood, and supporting policies that support urban agriculture all along the chain
   More gardens than ever that have joined the Garden Resource Program. A lot of more advanced gardeners have continued to stay with the GRP. KGD staff is dug in on land security policy and access to water and have a lot of work going into policy in that regard. They’ve been working closer with the Office of School Nutrition of Detroit Public Schools on procurement and how to build connections between larger farms and gardens. It’s been exciting to see connections between sectors.
   We have been working with the health department to allow people who use Electronic Benefit Transfer (Bridge) cards will be able to use benefits for a CSA box or GRP enrollment, With KGDs CSA they can use their Bridge card to swipe but they have to do it weekly -- they subscribe ahead of time but then can pay week to week. We are trying to figure out ways for seasonal boxed fresh fruits and vegetables can be connected with nutrition education. KGD has been working with American Indian family services and KGD just got certified to accept EBT.
Urban Roots applications are kicking off; 450 people have taken the class, which is a 9 week community training program.

7) Committee Reports (20 minutes)
   a. Fund Development Committee
      Winona gave the report from the fund development committee
      We have our annual campaign going as you have noticed; we also got sponsorships for
      the Food Power Awards and are seeking them for the Summit
   
   b. Research and Policy Committee
      Amy Kuras – presented at the Sustainable Detroit Forum in October
      DFPC met with Toronto Food Policy Council Director
      The Food Metrics Report has been released
      The Food Waste workgroup is developing a toolkit
      The Land Use Workgroup is meeting with the land bank, developing a survey of growers
      on land security
      Legislation: SB 108/109 has not moved
      The Food Security Policy Update was adopted by City Council
      
      Joel Howrani Heeres reported that the Office of Sustainability toured Cobo a few weeks
      ago. They compost food waste there and send it to Lansing. Regulatory barriers prevent
      sending it to Detroit. DFPC does send out policy alerts if people need to have
      information on what a policy is, who the target lawmakers are lawmakers and how to
      contact their own local policymaker.
   
   c. Education and Engagement Committee
      Kibibi Blount-Dorn – the Detroit Food Summit, which is scheduled for March 8-9. The
      theme is: It Takes a Village: Reclaiming Our Power in the Local Food System. We’re
      reaching out around the city for content reflecting that theme. Monica White will be the
      keynote speaker. All council members have program ad forms, and the Summit RFPS are
      due Jan 8.
      The grocery store coalition is a coalition of agencies around the city working on food
      access and developing a strategy for increasing food access within our sector. We’ve
      developed a strategy based on developing a stamp of approval program for local
      retailers based on the NEMS survey by WSU and other community based innovators.
      We’re also working on the “adopt a shop” program to develop relationships between
      stores and community. We’ve submitted to grants, to the Michigan Health Endowment
      Fund and also as a subcontractor on the Community Food Projects grant through WSU.
      The What About Food film series is starting up again with a screening of Just Eat It Jan
      31; we’re working with Amy and the Wasted Food Workgroup to have a panel
      discussion following that film.
      U-M is having the Food Literacy for All Course again; DFPC is working with U-M so
      community members can attend lectures. We will be bringing people to Detroit; will
      have events with Winona LaDuke and Kimberly Seals Allers. Three of the lectures will be
      streamed at the U-M Detroit center and people can tweet questions to the speakers.
   
   d. Youth Leadership Development Committee
      Olivia Henry – submitted a grant along with DPS for revamping the youth program and
      youth summit for next year. Olivia has also been participating in Hope Starts Here
      initiative for early childhood; I’ve also been helping a lot with other programs.
8) Director’s Report / Impact 2 Update/Strategic Planning
Winona Bynum gave the Director’s report: She was in DC at Good Food for all, where we talked about national food policy and did Hill visits with Senate and House staffers working to craft the farm bill. Markup should be available really soon. The next meeting is planned for that group in February to see how to work on mutual priorities we all have and will forward that document regarding shared priorities.
Jan 25 9-18 there will be a strategic planning session through Impact Squared.
The first media training is happening this week and there are two more sessions planned.

9) Reports from Governmental Representatives
   a. Health Department – Alex Hill
      There is an exciting partnership with KGD at WIC offices, as mentioned. We got the food metrics report finished-- thank you to the people who shared data, programs or pictures. Health department is in the middle of a community health assessment process. There are lots of opportunities to engage and let us know what you think of health in your community.

   b. Legislative Branch Report – Kathryn Underwood (not present, no report)

   c. Mayor’s Office – Joel Howrani Heeres
      The Sustainability Office is helping to facilitate some conversations about food; we have a Food Policy workgroup internally and two subgroups around Food Access and Urban Ag, as well as Procurement which Betsy Palazollo chairs
      As a city overall we’re trying to figure out how do we coordinate how the various activities play a part in food access and how do we prioritize food access as an asset in those neighborhoods. We’re in the early stages of beginning to coordinate work for the various agencies throughout.
      Alex and Joel have been talking to DDOT and Fresh Wagon -- ridership isn’t where they want it to be and they are looking at new models.
      The Good Food Ambassadors program is formally partnering with Community Health Pipeline here essentially student can get exposure to the health and nutrition career pipeline while at same time being able to educate Detroit residents about the nutrition programs that exist.
      The Urban Ag workgroup has been working on land access and how do we get access to land and water.
      There is good momentum at the city around that issue; I’m frankly not sure if the alignment of various things had happened or if people have sent enough letters or what, but I think that’s exciting.
      Alex and I have been working on how to get more food into rec centers, procurement group are looking at that – can we incorporate more local fresh food into the development pipeline. The rec department did 200 thousand meals last year; Meet Up and Eat up did a ton of meals last year.
      Betsy is working on the procurement issue -- large institutional purchases of food, which is a government way to say sourcing. What do we need from you to provide food -- format, funding, etc. on vendor side it’s how do you meet all those needs, of volume, etc. We’re hoping to loop Kevin Frank into that.

10) Next Meeting – Feb 13, 2018
11) Public Comments
   Kevin Kay
   Bill Thomason
   Carolyn Sagi -- work with Gleaners with Cooking Matters trying to help folks to stretch their food dollar in the most nutritious way possible.
   Joan Mandel –Green Toe gardens; have been beekeepers here for 17 years, want to do more announcing of where honey is sourced from and think about bees and how they fit into food policy might seem obvious thinking about how to partner with programs.
   Anthony Lombardo, opening restaurant in Midtown called SheWolf, just moved back from DC where I was chef there and also on board of Campus Kitchen’s DC Central Kitchen, doing feeding training etc. We’re taking people out of prison mandatory minimum victims teach them to cook filter throughout the area.
   Von Willis, community gardener in process of expanding garden
   Hayley Sakwa: when at UWSE working with Meet Up and Eat Up, now works for Cherry Capital to help them source local food.
   Ilana Unger, Hazon does a lot of justice work have honor of partnering with DFPC and greened the summit last year. We do a variety of things from greening events to working with the Jewish community to make Jewish places more sustainable
   Leah McCollough; recent urban roots graduate
   Jeremy Falcon, friend of Carla’s
   Calli Brannan, MSU extension
   Mary Rochelle, Coordinator for Michigan Food Corps, AmeriCorps program and recruiting we are opening application in January into March. Our members work with K-8 schools and connect kids to healthy food through hands on service leaning experiences
   Emma—Second-year Food Corps member, worked at Eastern Market

12) Announcements

13) Adjournment