

DFPC MEETING

APRIL 9, 2019 5:30 PM

DFPC Office

Conference Line

(605) 475-4000 / 595503#

Name	Attendance
Velonda Anderson, PhD	X
Kevin Frank	Call-in
Jonathan Roberts	X
Winona Bynum	X
Kibibi Blount-Dorn	X
Amy Kuras	X
Calli Brannan	X
Patrice Brown	X
Dazmonique Carr	X
Diane Cress, PhD	
Kristi Evans	
Clara Gamalski	X
Alex Hill	X
Joel Heeres	
Nick Leonard	Call-in
Jason Lindy	X
Shiloh Maples	X
Lindsay Pielack	X
Katheryn Underwood	

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

CHAIR: Acknowledgement of DFPC staff for being flexible with limited resources.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES

Remove duplicate entry of ANNE on Item 12. Correct the spelling of KARRIN BARBASH. Correct spelling of VALENTINA under Health Report.

BY-LAWS UPDATE

PROPOSAL: Add two seats to the council: (1) Faith and (2) Maternal/Infant Health. Empower the executive committee to add the two seats to the bylaws.

DISCUSSION

ALEX: Request for context and information on bylaws.

JONATHAN: Previously, it was suggested that the council have representation from the faith community and organizations related to nutrition for women and children. The two proposed seats came about as a result of these discussions. The bylaws allow the council to vote on changes so long as there is a quorum.

VOTE

11 YEAS. 0 NAYS. 0 ABSTAINING. *The proposal passes*

MSU PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION

NAIM EDWARDS: Hired by MSU to establish an urban agriculture and forestry site in Metro Detroit. Part of Detroit Partnership for Food Learning and Innovation (DP-FLI). The site will be located in Northwest Detroit on Six Mile and Grand River. There will be programming on nutrition, well-being and environmental resilience. The site will have research capabilities and conduct studies based upon questions and concerns from the community.

The site is located on an elementary school that was closed in the early 2000s and demolished. There is a preliminary floor plan. The southern half will be dedicated to urban agricultural research, soil projects and pest studies. The northern half will have a recreational space.



NAIM EDWARDS: The project will break ground on May 1, 2019 (construction of first building). Native plants will be incorporated, and 50ft x 50ft plots will be created for research demonstrations.

The soil quality in the area is low (due to the demolition being filled with sand). The first project will be soil restoration. The project will have control and experimental groups (conventional soil restoration, rototilling, no tilling). There will also be tests around mulch/compost and cover crops. The costs (time/money) will be documented for each plot. The goal is to remediate the soil and demonstrate paths for land activation based on soil quality (indexing socioeconomic differences).

The site is also open to other activities in the food system (nutrition, housing). Looking for donations and assistance.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

JASON: How will people know about what is happening on the site? Will there be signage?

NAIM: Signage is planned. The site will host tours once or twice a month. There is also a community advisory board from the surrounding neighborhoods, which will help to articulate and disseminate information.

PATRICE: If you collect money in the fundraiser, where does it go?

NAIM: Ideally, the site would employ someone to manage the site. We would like to create a funding mechanism on the site. We are crafting a three-year plan.

SHILOH: Can you describe the community engagement process, including the community advisory board?

NAIM: Before and since I've been hired, there was a coordinating committee. In 2017, they held monthly meetings to discuss how to use the site. There is an agreement with Detroit to have 30 free hours of content. There were 1-2 canvassing efforts (2 miles around the site). After that and monthly meetings, engagement was through word of mouth and organizational stakeholders. We will hire an intern over the summer who will adopt a hyper-local engagement strategy.

JASON: What does the research cohort look like?

NAIM: Given the quality of the soil, the first project was to deal with soil remediation. We approached local growers who expressed similar issues. We then crafted a proposal for the project. We reached out to MSU Extension and MSU faculty. Currently, the cohort consists of MSU Faculty and myself. As the site develops, I will step out of that role and allow other people to participate in research.

NOMINATION FOR VICE CHAIR

Nominee: LINDSAY PIELACK

REMARKS

LINDSAY: I serve as the sustainable agriculture chair for DFPC. I am also a co-director of Keep Growing Detroit. I have been involved in urban agriculture for 15 years. I bring a skillset that emphasizes organizational processes. We have council members who engage in multiple areas. I want us to do a better job of understanding how we can bring our networks and talents to the council. I also want to ensure that we have a budget to support our DFPC staff. Food policy councils across the country have found success with working groups.

QUESTIONS FOR NOMINEE

JONATHAN: How does the working group proposal relate to the current committee structure of the council?

LINDSAY: We need to finish the strategic plan so that we understand how we can best leverage committees. The committee structure is one of the only ways that members can plug into the council's work. Once we have the strategic framework in place, then the committees can be more effective and we can provide more efficient outlets for participation.

VOTE

11 YEAS. 0 NAYS. 0 ABSTAINING. LINDSAY is elected.

CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL PROFILES

PRESENTATION

MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM: I am from Toledo and have been involved in urban agriculture. Part of the Public Health Action Support Team (PHAST). We have trainings, workshops and projects throughout the region/nation/globe on disaster relief, outbreaks and public health.



MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM: I am from Toledo and have been involved in urban agriculture. Part of the Public Health Action Support Team (PHAST). We have trainings, workshops and projects throughout the region/nation/globe on disaster relief, outbreaks and public health. We have worked with DFPC to create a framework to allow DFPC to create policy recommendations for each district. Students in PHAST were given context on the food systems in the Council Districts. WINONA presented information to the students. We then pulled maps from the Food metrics report from Alex and Amy. Worked through how to make recommendations and messaging strategies for stakeholders around food systems issues. From this, we have developed City council district profiles.

EMILY: 1st Year of Masters in Public Health. There are seven people who have each taken a district. We put together a brief description of the histories, material realities and resources of communities. We also profiled who the district reps are and what messaging works best for them.

Our first step was to identify stakeholders. We developed a power mapping framework. With our background research, we used data from "Data-driven Detroit" and a program called Policy Maps (with GIS information and food retail leakage data). We also looked at media for the past 5-6 years. Finally, we looked at City plans.

Next, we conducted interviews to understand what is happening in districts. We learned that people don't talk in terms of districts but rather neighborhoods. We also want to know how stakeholders learn about issues and how they communicate with community members.

MADLINE: 1st Year Master Student (Public Health) at U of M. District One Profile (working document).

- Northwest District
- There are 30 neighborhoods including Brightmoor.
- Population 105,000 (Black population - 96,000).
- Councilman - James Tate. Second Term. Served on Police Department.

- Messages and Values: Economic development, community engagement, black male empowerment, accessible government.
- Neighborhood Engagement is a core part of District One.
 - Discover D-1 Business Directory. There are satellite hours to inform the community of issues. There are over 70 neighborhood and community orgs, such as Motor City Blight Buster (brought in over \$20 million dollars, 9,000 volunteers) and the Task force on Black Male Engagement (James Tate)
- Food Retail Leakage Dollars. What are opportunities that we are losing in the district due to lack of food resources?

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

DAZMONIQUE: Is Discover D-1 Business Directory elsewhere?

MADLINE: No, it is unique to District One.

CLARA: When will it be available?

MALCOLM: Mid-April

PATRICE: Will you have DFPC-specific recommendations?

MALCOLM: We aren't comfortable making recommendations, but we will be offering information, potentially next year. The profiles are about context, messaging strategies and resources. We want to give a policy map but there were licensing issues.

LINDSAY: What is the status of the interviews?

MADLINE: We are still in the process of interviewing stakeholders.

RESEARCH AND POLICY

AMY: Our attendance was down for the DFPC Summit. We are creating a survey to understand why our attendance was down. An email will be sent out shortly. We are working on the 10 Cents a Meal project. We are planning a legislative day next Tuesday to talk with reps in Lansing about the budgeting process.



AMY: KATHY BEARD from Motion Coalition wants to meet with KEVIN FRANK to talk about how to support locally and bring to city. There was a Dietician's Legislative Day attended by WINONA BYNUM. REP. ISAAC ROBINSON emailed Dr. NIKOLAI VITTI about 10 Cents a Meal. AMY KURAS and SHILOH MAPLES attended the racial equity summit.

SHILOH: Centering equity around racial equity really changed the conversation.

AMY: Land-based project with City will wrap up next month. We have also been working with the Fisher Foundation in Brightmoor to study how food is being distributed in early childhood programs.

EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CLARA: EEC has been working on an activity that is appropriate for a variety of formats. We want to create a facilitation/education/curriculum toolkit so that council members can educate the community about the food system and discuss the different ways policy impacts sustainability and equity. What we arrived at is a Tomato food chain activity (Industrial – Heinz Ketchup; Locally grown in City – Eastern Market Salad). We are also soliciting input for our work. Our question is, if you could only share one thing with the world about your work, what would that be? Will be asked via email.

LINDSAY: Could we get a copy of the draft?

CLARA: Yes.

KIBIBI: We will send out the information. I will also report out on the Food Summit. Held March 7-8. We had a great event in terms of presentation quality and workshops. 200 people in total (attendees, presenters, volunteers, facilitators). 200 volunteer hours. Great feedback about the workshops (content, organization/structure). The survey will be sent out shortly. This year's attendance was lower than the last few years. There was also a loss of diversity in terms of who was coming and/or who was presenting. The storytelling component was valuable, and we reached a lot of people through those networks. We will be planning for our tenth annual food summit. We will have a visioning session with councilmembers. Phil will be stepping down.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Current as of March 31)

KEVIN FRANK: We would need about \$200,000 annually. We currently have enough for a month or two of operating funds. Staff are part time.

- \$36,000+ in total assets (does not include revenue from Make Food Not Waste).
- \$4980 in liabilities (Audit and account payables)
- Recurring Expenses: 10,000+
 - Much more than recurring revenues. Looking to find grants for recurring revenues. But the grants are for schools/universities.

GOVERNMENTAL REPORTS

Health Department

ALEX: We are applying to Health Endowment Fund. At the end of April, we were given a planning grant from the Harvard School of Public Health for the Brightmoor work. I also have bike lights for distribution and bike maps.

Legislative

KATHRYN is traveling

Mayor's Office

ALEX: Joel says that sustainability action report will be released in June.

LAND-BASED PROJECTS

PRESENTATION

ERIN: I work for the city's planning and development department. The city has been working with an intra-agency team (health dept, etc.), DFPC, Keep Growing Detroit, and consultants. We want to better communicate the process for obtaining land in Detroit and obtaining permits for land-based projects. We had a focus group this morning and will be doing a day-long engagement activity with staff.

GUS: From Detroit Land Bank Authority. We sell vacant land for land-based projects and urban ag projects.

ERIN: The process for acquiring land touches many agencies, so there are several difficulties. It is difficult because the city agencies are siloed. Land-based covers many areas (urban agriculture, community garden, outdoor gathering space). Can be organized for profit or community-based. This work has been a continuation of several efforts by activists and advocates.



ERIN: Project Goals: Improved process, clearer expectations and instructions, good neighbor guidelines.

Timeline

- 2018: Pre-planning
- Jan 2019: Site Tours, Focus Groups with leaders of land projects
- February 2019: Site tours, Focus groups with leaders, workshop on process

Survey: www.detroitmi.gov/land

Presentations and works will be posted online.

What We've Heard: Need to ensure that those who have been doing the work can stay, grow and thrive. Need to ensure that future projects are with good neighbors. New partners might not be community-minded. Need for clarity around expectations (pricing, community partners eligibility, side lot eligibility, conditions of restricted deed)

GUS: There are difficulties in purchasing land. Many people did not know they could purchase land. There needs to be clear expectations for prospective buyers. Pricing is also a big issue. There is a lack of consistency. Certain large projects have received special pricing. Trying to work to improve pricing. We have sold 11,000 side lots. There is a restricted deed, and many people don't know what it means. We want to do a better job of explaining.

ERIN: Register change of use issues (protect your rights as a property owner). Inspectors require more literacy around land-based projects (blight ticketing). Maintenance is a very important part of land-based project. We are working on documents and a website directory so that there is a one-stop shop online for land use and projects. We are designing forms.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

SHELBY: Intra-governmental collaboration is key.

PATRICE: I am glad you are working with some local orgs. I am curious about some land spaces that people want to buy but cannot because of development or potential developments that have not materialized in 10+ years. Has the community spoken about this issue? but nothing has happened in 10+ years. Has the community spoken about that?

ERIN: We have heard interest in a city-wide plan to create clear guides for how land should be used.

There is also a website that can be used to determine what land can be used and bought.

JASON: This practice of intragovernmental work is a great model. When this goes through, is it going to be focused on new or existing land users, a decent percentage of whom may be resistant to this?

ERIN: We are making process improvements around people who have never done it before. We are bringing in a first-timer perspective. The city's priority is also the people right now. We want to introduce transparency around language and concepts.

JASON: When you are starting a project for the first time, it is easier to go through the process. For the multitudes of individuals who already have land use projects, what is the approach? It may seem punitive.

ERIN: We are relying on other people to connect us to those with concerns. If there are people you know, you can introduce them to me. This is not a city-wide plan, but it is an effort that touches individuals city-wide.

DAZMONIQUE: The first packet that I received has a website. I visited the website to look at the map. Is there a "Buy" link that appears to streamline this process?

ERIN: No. We are trying to create a one-click experience so that the information will transfer to the application.

Point of Order

CHAIR: We will be going over to accommodate Public Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JESSI PATUANO: I am a chef here in the city. I am wondering what role we can play in changing policy and addressing the greater needs of the city. There is a trend in the industry of pandering to the suburban communities for destination communities. There isn't a lot of focus on feeding the community.



JONATHAN: Food industry workers are also an important part of the equation. They need to make a living wage; and the industry needs to address sexual harassment. I can connect you to ROC Michigan.

CLARA: We also need to spark conversations in restaurants.

JESSI: There is a large community that wants to be involved. The approach needs to be economically viable. But there is a lack of communication.

KEVIN KAY: (Make Food Not Waste). Many owners do not know about food donation protections. We started a subcommittee to focus on food waste. California just changed state law to allow food providers to directly donate food. There may be a national conversation. There are also conversations at Ford around autonomous vehicles. There needs to be a collective commitment.

JASON: There are two pathways – First, working with the restaurant industries and understanding the level of organization (council, committees). Second, working with workers.

CALLI: There are also tax benefits for donating food.

ANNE: There are laws that protect restaurant owners who donate.

AMY: We are trying to develop a toolkit for restaurateurs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PATRICE: Eastern Market is hiring food and health fellows.

KIBIBI: Food Literacy for All course has been hosting lectures every Tuesday. LAURA COOPER will be joining us from 6 to 8 for an event. There are three more lectures. Live in Ann Arbor.

JONATHAN: The Executive Committee is empowered to nominate and fill vacant seats. We have one nomination. Are there any objections?
No Objections

CALLI: One More Meal is looking for board members. We will hopefully be piloting in the summer. We need four members. We also need volunteers to serve food at the end of the school day. Will send out information via email.

LINDSAY: Grow Something and Garden Resource Program. Resource distribution next week. We have posters for organizations.

CLARA: Great Lakes Pioneers Conference (land environmental and human connections) has been moved to University of Detroit Mercy. We want community participation and input. I can connect you to the planning process.

VELONDA: Michigan Good Food Fund. Brand story showcase night. Thursday April 11 at Next Energy. Showcase is a 6 PM. Five minutes each. The audience will be able to vote on one. The panel will vote on the other two.

END TIME: 7:45 PM