



Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

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

Eastern Market Corporation

MINUTES

1) Welcome and Roll Call - 5:45

In attendance: Phil Jones, Ashley Atkinson, DeWayne Wells, Marilyn NeferRa Barber, Roxanne Moore, Betti Wiggins, Mimi Pledl, Sandra Turner-Handy (phone), Suzette Olaker, Kathryn Lynch Underwood, Tepfirah Rushdan

Staff: Cheryl A. Simon, Kibibi Blount-Dorn

Guests: Donald Jones, Eileen Haraminac - MSUE

2) Chairperson's Report

Phil thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers while he was sick, for their participation in the summit. Phil thanked Betti for bringing great number of youth in the summit, and for including students from Southwest Detroit. Phil heard good things about all of the workshops. We need to continue our efforts because we have more needs moving forward. We had national reach of media from the summit.

Betti: all of the schools who participated in the summit have students engaged in projects related to food or the environment.

3) Detroit Food 2014 Summit Debrief

We had about 100 youth and approximately 176 adults. There are some presenters and school chaperones who did not sign in, so all together we had approximately 300 people at the summit. Renee and some of the note takers are transcribing our notes from the summit and we will put together a summary report so we can disseminate the information that was gathered at the summit. Jerome Espy from Nfinity Communications helped us with publicity and media. Phil Jones was on Live in the D, and Suzette was on Channel 4 with Will from COLORS before the summit; The Free Press, M Live, Michigan Citizen had reporters at the summit; Ladonna did an interview on WDET; and an online paper in Anchorage Alaska had a story on the summit.

Youth engagement piece was coordinated by Suzette Olaker, Myrtle Thompson Curtis, Kezia Curtis, Hanifa Adjuman, Denis Rochac, and Will Mundel worked to coordinate the youth track.

Feedback from council members

Kami: 1. Give at least 15 mins. or so of Q&A after the keynote, for a conversation w the speaker. Keep the lecture a bit shorter if needed for this. It helps continue those conversations at lunch when you

have a plenary discussion started, also gives the speaker a chance to connect with the audience in a more meaningful way.

2. At the very beginning of the conference, preferably before the keynote since that session receives the max no of people at one time, talk about the food arrangements, since it's something a great deal of thought does get put into, given the topic of our work. While nothing is perfect, we embody the relationships we care about in our food arrangements.

I thought overall, the summit was very good, with great discussions in the workshops I attended, but in conversations with others, the quality seemed to be a bit mixed based on which workshops they attended.

Suezette: there was a lot of enthusiasm from the youth. There were students from elementary, middle, and high school who participated. Many of them said they were interested in participating again, and participating in a planning capacity. They were encouraged to share using social media. They really liked the food. The adults who were with the youth were really engaged and were excited that this was not a one off event. Thanks to Betti and everyone who participated.

Nefer Ra: Twelve participants from our program (EAT) came, and they were a cross section of people who didn't know anything about food. This was an excellent opportunity for them to get information. They went to all the sessions, and they were disappointed when they had to leave early. She talked to Eileen about reconstructing some of the workshops, and they will be coming to the DFPC meeting in May. The food was awesome.

Mimi: was a note taker, and there were times she couldn't write fast enough. People were really engaged and really interested. All the workshops I attended were really really good. People continued conversations after the sessions.

DeWayne: participated in two workshops as a presenter and was surprised that people were really engaged and wanted more information.

Ashley: it went really well. There were a lot of chairs that needed butts. It was a really positive space. Suggests planning earlier, recruiting from different audiences, including more youth, and other strategies to get more people there.

Katherine: had and an "unworkshop" to get people's ideas about animals. It was a good way to get input. People could look at other people's comments. It was good to try it out at the summit. The policy panel had some difficulties because the workshop next door was very noisy. There was also more ambient noise from the factory floor.

Eileen: enjoyed being a presenter. Dr. Velonda Thompson, Carolyn Jennings, and Kathryn Savoie did a very good job. The session on grocery store research was very good.

Q: did we have a way to count how many people were in each workshop?

A: we had sign in sheets in each session, and note takers

Phil: thanked the staff for their work on the summit

- 4) Review and Acceptance of the February and March Meeting Minutes
March meeting minutes accepted with corrections; February minutes accepted with corrections
- 5) Audit Report

This is our fiscal audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. The audit has been done for a few months, but we have not had a quorum in order to accept the audit until now. The letter states that an unqualified opinion. Page 3 is our Statement of Financial Position. It shows \$182, 562 on our account. Some of that money is part to the Kellogg grant that was not spent yet. We don't have any liabilities. Page 4 is our statement of activities. \$120,000 is our Kellogg grant, \$928 is from the summit. The decrease in net assets balances our net assets. Management is the salary for staff, which is contracted out to The Greening of Detroit. Statement of Cash Flows tracks the flow of money in and out of the organization. We had a spillover from the Kellogg grant from the previous year. Q: where do consultant fees come? A: professional services. If there was a consultant for example for the strategic planning it would be in Program. Q; we don't have any receivables or payables? A: no. Page 6 is a statement of functional expenses, so our expenses are broken down by item. Phil: Training and development amount seems low. We need to invest more money in staff. Pages 7-9 are the notes. The notes talk about that we are a 501 c 3, the basis of accounting, the accounting practices, and some other standard items.

Report accepted by consensus.

6) Coordinator's Report

We have to raise \$50,000 by October in order to receive the next \$50,000 from Kellogg. Q: if we are unsuccessful in meeting the match our grant is what? A: We would get \$75,000. We have a proposal in to the Kresge Foundation, but they have delayed acting on it because they made a commitment to the pension fund of the DIA. They would give us \$65,000 for three years. We have some other ideas, and we need some other folks to look at this. Those of you who are in organizations where we work together, we need to work together to apply for funding together. Q: we aren't putting other organizations in on the grants we are applying for? A: not on the proposal to the Kresge foundation, but we can include other organizations on others. Q: can we be a fiduciary? A: we can be the grantee on our grants now. Q: can we be the fiduciary for other organizations? A: we can do it, but we would probably only do it for organizations that are smaller than us.

Ashley: a fundraising committee could be a role for some of the council members whose terms will be up in November.

There are several members whose terms are ending in November, and some members are not eligible for another term. The nominating committee needs to meet to discuss new board members.

Who will be part of the fund development committee: DeWayne Wells, Betti Wiggins, and Ashley Atkinson? Dan Carmody has already volunteered to participate in this. Cheryl will ask Lydia, and Betti would like to ask Mimi.

We need to have a three pronged strategy that includes grassroots fundraising. Cheryl talked to LaDonna Redmond about Soul Food Stories that would be similar to the Vagina Monologues and would tell stories and raise money. It would help us engage people who can't write a check, but can attend an event and purchase a ticket for \$20.00.

Suzette: should we also consider professional fundraisers? This is an add on to what council members are already doing.

At this point Suzette takes over chairing the meeting

Kibibi will email the Michigan Citizen schedule to council members.

Q: Who from the council is participating in the Food and Community Meeting?

A: Cheryl will talk with Esperanza later in the week to discuss what they are looking for, and then she will make the determination on who to ask.

The Food and Community Meeting will be in Detroit May 20-22; participants from all over the country will participate. How is it best to get the information back to council members? DeWayne and Ashley are on the host team and they will make sure the relevant information gets to council members. Cheryl is compiling information on the city council district

Ashley: would like to hear updates on the strategic plan at the council meetings.

7) Reports from Governmental Representatives

a. Department of Health and Wellness Promotion – Dr. Velonda Thompson – not present

b. Legislative Branch Report – Kathryn Underwood

Kathryn is working with representative from the mayor's office to try to move purchase of land for agriculture forward.

Q: what is causing the hold up?

Kathryn: I can't answer that question because I do not work with Planning and Development.

c. Executive Branch Report

8) Next Meeting – May 13, 2014

We will have information on the strategic plan, and the fund development subcommittee.

9) Public Comments

Don Jones: Jerry Ann invited Don to talk about Robinson Elementary project. DPS says they can put their property to work, and Keep Growing Detroit has helped to put the project together. There is an empty lot and the project proposes to grow tomatoes on the property. They are marketing their produce at Eastern Market Wholesale Market, and hope to sell to DPS. Don is looking for members of his Board of Advisors to advise the project.

Q: Does DPS want to lease lots to people?

A: yes, DPS is serious about leasing the vacant lots they own.

Betti: The School Garden Collaborative will provide two garden attendants for the Denby project. The Kettering project will grow corn because this is the crop they can most effectively harvest, process and distribute. Betti is open to definitive research about not growing GMO produce.

Suzette: strongly urges Betti to reconsider the use of GMO crops for this project.

Kathryn: the onus should be on the producers to prove that pesticides and GMO's are not harmful.

Betti urged everyone to develop plans for the vacant DPS land.

Kathryn: there is a need for community engagement to let people know that this land is available.

10) Announcements

June 13, 1:00 ground breaking at Kettering

Cold Crop distribution Thursday 5-7 and Saturday 1-3 at EarthWorks Urban Farm. If you know people who have not signed up for the Garden Resource Program please bring them. Bring a box
DBCFSN What's for Dinner April 19 2-4, Dr. Akua Woolbright is the speaker
Urban Agriculture Ordinance update Thursday, 6-8, Corinthians Church 1725 Caniff

11) Adjournment 7:40