



**Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 11 2015**  
**5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**  
**Eastern Market, Shed 5**  
**MINUTES**

- 1) Welcome and Roll Call  
Suzette Olaker, Phil Jones, Jelani Barber, Mimi Pldel, Anika Grose, Eileen Haraminac, Tyler Chatman, Sandra Turner-Handy, Ashley Atkinson, Zaundra Wimberley (phone), Tepfirah Rushdan (phone), Kirk Mayes (phone)
- 2) Remarks from the Chair  
Suzette reviewed the meeting protocol.
- 3) Review and Acceptance of the June Meeting Minutes  
Minutes accepted with corrections
- 4) Review of attendance policies  
Council members must not missed more than three meetings without excuse within a six month period. There was a questions of proxies. When we have members who are not able to participate in person proxies are not allowed. Another person cannot vote on behalf of a council member, and it will not count for the attendance record.
- 5) Grocery Stores, Aday Arabo  
We have with us a representative of the Association of Food and Petroleum Dealers (AFPD). Aday Arabo is the President of the association that represents independent food retailers in Michigan, Ohio and Illinois.  
Aday is an attorney and son of a grocery store owner. They represent the independent and some chain grocery stores. He shared the history of AFPD, experience with organized labor, and makeup of their membership, which includes gas stations small and large grocery stores. Aday is the representative of food retailers on the state's ICC. Aday introduced Steve Hood who is the community relations representative for Detroit. AFPD handles government relations, compliance with programs such as WIC, and community outreach (501 (c) 6) which includes a scholarship fund and turkey drive. They have worked on issues such as removing inappropriate products from stores, staggered delivery of SNAP benefits, and the pilot of Double Up Food Bucks in grocery stores. They develop programs to allow small grocery stores to aggregate and compete with large grocery stores.

Independent grocery stores rely more on perishable items than large grocery stores. Retailers in Michigan compared to retailers across the region are very good. AFPD is able to mediate between grocery stores and community members. AFPD visited and mapped all the grocery stores in Detroit, 76 full line grocery stores. But the city is geographically very large, and there is inadequate transportation to provide access to all the stores. Because of this the people rely on smaller stores to provide for all of their needs, which the smaller stores are not equipped to do. Crime is a significant issue for small

grocery stores. AFPD has recently taken on some gas stations in Detroit. There are some bad stores and gas stations, and when AFPD calls a store that is not a member they do not respond well. Detroit is competitive in the independent market. There is a Kroger opening in Detroit in the next year. Aday is happy to be at DFPC and form a relationship.

Discussion:

Q: We are in the process of nominating new members and we have never had strong representation from the retail sector. Are you so committed that you would recommend someone to be a member? We would prefer to have a retailer as the member.

A: Aday will help us to identify someone to nominate. Aday will contact the staff with a recommendation

Q: we have certain ideas about what AFPD is and it is helpful to have information about what AFPD is and does, and we thank you for being here.

We have discussed instituting a no disrespect pledge which is an agreement between store owners and communities, and we would like to ask grocery stores to sign on to the pledge.

Q: How many of the 76 stores are WIC vendors and accept SNAP?

A: All the full line grocery stores accept SNAP, and we expedite approval of SNAP vendors in less than seven days. WIC is based on population, zip code, and individual state regulations. State regulations also include saturation levels, so they will not authorize a full line grocery store if there are too many smaller stores that already accept WIC in the area. AFPD believes every full line store that wants to accept WIC should be able to. Whole Foods is only store that doesn't accept WIC.

Q: Is AFPC associated with the Food and Beverage Association?

A: The AFPD does not work with the Food and Beverage Association. We have begun to develop a working relationship in the last couple years, but do not have a strong relationship. The grocery store industry tends to be dominated by recent immigrants, and there tends to be a new immigrant groups who dominate the industry every generation. AFPD promotes diversity in the industry and is interested in providing expertise for training programs. Three jobs that need more trained people are meat cutters, produce managers, and truck drivers.

6) Child Nutrition Reauthorization, Ghida Dagher

Ghida is the advocacy and government relations manager at United Way of SEM. Child Nutrition Reauthorization happens every 5 years, affects \$15 billion, and funds programs such as School lunch, summer lunch. Millions of children are fed every day through Child Nutrition programs. The current bills expire September 30. If extension expires programs will come to a halt. 1 in 5 people in Michigan, 72% in Detroit suffer from food insecurity. Detroit is pilot city for community eligibility provision, if school has more than 40% of students who qualify for program then the whole district is automatically given eligibility for every child. Work with Forgotten Harvest, Gleaners, DPS to advocate for CNR. UWSEM held summit in the winter to build a voice for Child Nutrition. Following the summit UWSEM developed an advocacy campaign that focuses on engaging local and federal elected officials. They are engaging city council members to show that it is important to the city. Federal money is coming into the city to fund programs in the city and we want to increase awareness of the programs in the city. The advocacy campaign includes setting up meetings with congressional delegation and inviting them to visit the Meet Up and Eat Up sites over the summer. UWSEM has policy recommendations (see attached). Recommendations include greater flexibility (instituting summer SNAP which has WIC model or SNAP model), reducing red tape, nutrition education and enrichment, nutrition standards (asking congress to maintain current nutrition standards), innovations and technology, and WIC (maintain funding and do not divert funding to other nutrition services). The U.S. Senate would like a bill passed in the Senate by September 30. A bill was brought to floor last week that only addressed summer feeding. The bill includes circumstances for increasing flexibility for congregate feeding rules, and for providing summer SNAP but with a WIC model. Anticipate that the bill be absorbed into a

larger CNF bill. This year the focus is summer feeding. In the House of Representatives it could be a totally different story. Asking people to send letters of support that is available on UWSEM website, send stories of how we are affected. UWSEM is developing a toolkit for advocacy for CNR. Share Our Strength and Feeding America have sing on letters, and UWSEM will do a letter specifically for southeast Michigan.

Discussion:

Q: is there oversight in the authenticity of the numbers, and to select good sites?

A: There is oversight at the state and local level, and site inspections. If people have knowledge of sites where fraud is going on they should talk to Ghida or a MUEU representative. The website is [liveunitedsem.org](http://liveunitedsem.org) Story collectors are particularly interested in success stories from summer feeding. Ghida will send all information to Kibibi to share with everyone.

Q: What is happening this year that is different from last year?

A: Two years ago the entire program was rebranded in Southeast Michigan. There is a campaign around outreach to let people know what programs are included, and that MUEU is a year round program. Next year state wants to incorporate a literacy component.

## 7) Committee Reports

### a. Research and Policy Committee

We met in June and in July. We have begun conducting surveys and community listening sessions around the food security policy update. We have the survey available online and paper form, we encourage everyone to share that information with your networks. We want to collect 400 surveys by the end of September. We're holding a series of small community listening session around the city. We want to reach each district and to get a couple of specific group. We want to make sure to get a session with seniors, youth, and other specific groups. We currently have sessions scheduled at Joy Southfield Market next Tuesday, Hannan House on Friday, and we will be holding sessions this coming weekend at the African World Festival in the afternoon of Friday Saturday and Sunday. We want to encourage council members if you're available to be able to attend at least one of the sessions.

To assist in preparing for the next food system report and figure out what kind of report we are going to do and how we will collect the data for it we are starting to think now about what kind of data we have, what kind of information is available, and what kind of stories are evolving. We have started to outline the data we have been collecting or tracking. In the past we have done a big overview report that was data heavy, and we've done more of a narrative report on specific topics. Our goal is to be able to look at the body of knowledge we have and decide what kind of report our next food system report will be. I will send the list out and ask people to add to it so that when we start to prepare for the next food system report.

At our last meeting we had a report from the urban livestock working group. They will be holding community engagement sessions September 29 and October 1, there will be one on the west side and one on the east side. I will send the information of the details as we get it. The sessions will discuss the types of animals that will be included in the ordinance, the livestock guild, and engage people in the process of thinking about what livestock should and could look like in different neighborhoods of the city.

The land use subcommittee is working on drafting a statement about what we want to see from the city in terms of a land use plan for the city especially in terms of urban agriculture. We discussed holding a meeting and invite the Land Bank, the mayor's office, and the Planning

and Development Department. We will be having a meeting on August 20th the start to plan for that meeting.

Discussion:

What is the ideal configuration of listening sessions? We have some different sectors on the list that we want to engage. We will review our list of events when we meet tomorrow to look at the distribution of session in detail. We should look strategically at the sectors to get good representation from the different sectors. Donna would be willing to hold a session in District 4 with Chandler Park block club and other neighborhood associations.

b. Education and Engagement Committee

The Education and Engagement Committee also met in both June and July. The Grocery Store Engagement subcommittee met to talk about the Food Finder and coming back to our plan to have an evaluation of the grocery stores and display an endorsement of good grocery stores in the city. We will meet next week to solidify the work plan and timeline. We will have more information to give out at the next meeting.

We will talk more about the annual campaign in the fundraising committee report, but in terms of events to support our annual campaign we will have two community engagement events to get people interested and talking about, introduce food system issues in Detroit.

We have started the planning process for Detroit Food 2016. Our theme is Food For Change. The dates are March 10-11, and the venue is the Ford Conference Center at the Taubman Center for Design Education in New Center. We will be asking council members to help us generate ideas for sessions in the early fall, so start thinking about if you would like to host a session or if you know some awesome individuals or projects from your sector that would make an great session at the summit.

We will have a committee super meeting next Wednesday: the Research and Policy Committee will meet at 4:30-6, and the Education and Engagement Committee will meet at 6:00-7:30. Anyone who would like to attend both meetings, this would be an excellent opportunity to do so.

c. Fund Development Committee

Our Annual Campaign will be kicking off in September. We have been asked to diversify our funding sources. Our culmination event will be the last harvest brunch on Sunday November 8. We are asking each council member to make sure 5 \$50 tickets are sold. We will also kick off our golden beet award. We are asking each council member to nominate one person, business, or organization for the golden beet award.

Discussion:

Tomorrow we are meeting with fund development director of the city of Detroit. The next meeting of the fund development committee will be September 1 4-5:30. We welcome folks to join that committee.

d. Nominating Committee

Nominating committee's mission is to make sure this body is made up of most dedicated and representative members possible. We have really exciting people who have joined us. We have a call for nominations. The seats that are up for election are: (insert). We want representation from Detroiters or people working in Detroit. See Ashley or Anika if you have

questions. Submit nominations by October 2. Terms will begin at meeting following elections. We need two additional members to join the nominating committee.

8) Director's Report

Most items have been covered in other reports. Staff participated in the Detroit Urban Agriculture tour for members of the Michigan legislature. Winona was invited to participate in the Food and Fitness collaborative tour that took place in New York in July. We participated in the Good Food Fund Launch event in Detroit. Economic Analysis report team will meet with Jed Holbert, executive director of Jobs and Economy team for mayor's office and Maurice Cox to present recommendations based on the analysis. The food security policy created the food policy council. We are looking at the policy to make sure we report on things that have been accomplished.

9) Reports from Governmental Representatives

- a. Department of Health and Wellness Promotion – Velonda Thompson (absent)
- b. Legislative Branch Report – Kathryn Underwood (absent)
- c. Executive Branch Report – Garry Bullock (absent)

10) Next Meeting – September 8, 2015 @ Eastern Market (main conference room)

11) Public Comments

Medgar Clark – attended the first listening session last Wednesday. Turnout was low for the session. Made comments as citizen about the policy was reprimanded by research staff. Medgar would like to find out what the formal complaint policy is because he would like to file a formal complaint about the treatment at the session.

12) Announcements

DNR has developed a great lakes water strategy for Michigan. They held a meeting in Detroit last month. They are accepting public comments until September 18. Planning to hold public meeting August 20, 6:00 at UofM Detroit Center.

African World Festival this weekend, will include discussion on the Food System, Friday 1pm  
Kitchen Connect is offering funding opportunity for minorities, women, immigrants who with food businesses. Applications are due August 21, look on the eastern market website for more information.  
Sylvia Crawford, Northwest Activities Center, own a sports and convenience mart in the center that supportd health and fitness activities in the center. May be an opportunity to host a listening session at the center.

Arthur Roads, Detroit People's Platform

Donna McDuffie, resident of district 4, gardener and concerned about the water issue and food.

Daryl Gordon, EMEAC

13) Adjournment

7:49