



Detroit Food Policy Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

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

Eastern Market

Minutes

1) Welcome and Roll Call (5 minutes)

Jerry Ann Hebron, Phil Jones, Ashley Atkinson, Eileen Haraminac, Velonda Thompson, Kathryn Lynch Underwood, Tepfirah Rushdan, Jelani Barber, Marisol Teachworth (phone), Sandra Turner Handy (phone), Lydia Gutierrez (phone),
Guests: Deborah Whiting

2) Remarks from the Chair

Jerry chaired the meeting, Suzette is traveling. Jerry reviewed the meeting and discussion guidelines. Jerry reported the Hiring Committee has hired an Executive Director and introduced Winona Bynum. The search lasted four months and nine people applied from around the country.

3) Review and Acceptance of the December Meeting Minutes

Accepted with corrections

4) Department of Health and Wellness Promotion

Deborah Whiting, Deputy Director for the Department of Health and Wellness Promotion (DHWP)

Food Safety falls under Detroit Department of Health. Prior to October 1 all of the services that were mandated to be provided by DHWP were contracted out to IPH. As of January 1 DHWP have gone back to managing several services. DHWP has contracted with vendors to provide dental programs, all WIC services, maternal child health, sexually transmitted infections, tuberculosis and Children with special health care services. The department has entered into a unique program in which infectious disease services are now offered by Wayne State University Medical School. Public act 280 requires DHWP to provide specific services. When WIC services were bid out in October there was a question about how vendors were informed of the bidding process so they had to wait until January to transfer services to the vendors. The department is evaluating the process for food safety inspection, which is under IPH. Building Safety and Engineering is looking at streamlining inspection process so that businesses only need one inspection rather than four separate inspections.

Q: Is DHWP still handling food handler's permit?

A: The Food Handler's Permit has been eliminated.

Q: If the food inspection function goes to Building Safety and Engineering will the personnel go to that department or will their staff take over that function?

A: The staff from IPH will go to Building Safety and Engineering, but DHWP will be able to evaluate the staff before they are transferred.

Discussion: Phil invited DHWP to share information at the Summit.

Dr. Velonda Thompson is the DFPC representative of DHWP and Director of WIC.

WIC has been restructured as of January 1. The WIC program is being administered by three vendors. Two offices will relocate: The east side will move to the Samaritan Center, and the Woodward location has moved to The Family Place. The department will integrate other services such as immunizations with WIC. The WIC programs have a captive audience of women and small children at their programs and they will look at offering doula services, WCHAP and family exercise programs, programs to reduce early delivery, and other services at the WIC clinics.

Discussion: We have a tremendous resource in terms of food in the city. Where are the opportunities to share food system resources at the WIC clinics?

Deborah Whiting: I invite you to discuss the available opportunities with in a separate meeting.

Q: Is there a position from WIC on the practice of companies who are purchasing breast milk from women in minority communities?

A: There is not an official position from WIC. The Breastfeeding coordinator will be meeting with the national network next week and may have an update after that meeting.

Jerry: we thank you for attending the meeting and we look forward to continued collaboration

Ashley: Thank you to Velonda.

5) Notes From the Field – Sustainable Agriculture (10 minutes)

Ashely, co-director of Keep Growing Detroit (KGD): KGD's mission is to promote a food sovereign city of Detroit in which most of the food eaten in the city is grown in Detroit, by Detroiters, for Detroiters. Applications are now available for the Garden Resource Program. Keep Growing Detroit looked at the value the Garden Resource Program. Last year the program worked with 1400 gardens, and this year they want to expand to 1600 gardens. KGD will bring Garden Resource Program to community events and meetings. In addition to the garden resource program application, the winter newsletter is also being distributed.

Jerry, KGD board member: With the Garden Resource Program there are opportunities for members to participate in an event such as transplant production. People can volunteer to work in the green houses, and then take the skills back to their own garden or farm. We have seed packing parties where you can build relationships and meet other people. They are fun activities to do in the winter. These activities qualify as activities that allow members to qualify to get other resources offered by the GRP.

Phil, KGD board member: The Garden Resource Program offers education opportunities. There are cooking classes, education about the fruits and vegetables that people receive in Garden Resource Program, and classes on other gardening skills. The classes offer relationship building, and community building. People form relationships that extend outside of the garden.

Q: What year is this for the GRP?

A: This is year 11, we started out with 80 gardens, and there are 1400 gardens and farms this year, we have grown 26% each year since we started the program

Q: What year is this for Urban Roots?

A: Urban Roots has been going for 11 years, too. The application process just closed. This is going to be a very powerful year for urban roots. There are about 150 urban roots graduates so far.

Q: Do you have any resources for gardens that are not part of the program?

A: Last year we started Good Food Blocks that lists all the food resources in a community. KGD goes door to door in a community to find resources. It's getting harder to reach new people each year.

Discussion: is it possible to go to senior buildings where seniors live? Many senior living buildings have a place set aside where people can grow vegetables.

A: Yes, KDG will come and bring resources. We will also give on demand classes anywhere where our partner will assemble ten or more people to attend the class, and we will train a community member to provide education.

Q: do you go to the council and mayor's district meetings?

A: we try to attend them, we have been to all the side lot fairs

Discussion: it would be good if you could get on the agenda at the district meetings.

Q: Do you teach food preservation?

A: Yes we teach freezing, dehydrating, preserving, and pickling.

6) Audit

Mimi had an emergency so she can not present the audit and financial report. Please review the documents included in your board pack. If you have any questions please send them to Mimi and we will address the questions at our next meeting.

7) Financial Report

See Audit report

8) Summit

The summit is March 31-April 2 at Focus: HOPE. We have about 20 people participating in summit planning committee, with the greatest number of people in the Youth Track Planning. We still need people to help with communications, logistics and registration. We have a Facebook page for the summit. We need help with programming; there are 24 program workshop slots. Eileen has put together a workshop on food safety. The form for workshop proposals is in google drive and on our website. We have a weekly check in on the phone where anyone can join and ask questions. We need to focus on selling advertising for the program booklet and getting sponsors. DeWayne Wells is working on what the partnership will be with the DFFC. The website is working.

Q: We are in a better place than we were. If there were one or two places to plug in where would they be?

A: fundraising. Another big component for this year is that we are starting Friends of the DFPC, this will be a fundraising arm of the organization and we will have an event to launch this during the summit.

Q: What are the fundraising goals and how far do we have to go to get there.

A: Don't have it in front of me, but the information is in the financial folder in Google Drive. There is an updated budget. The total is around \$50,000-60,000 and we have about half of that committed.

9) Coordinator's Report

Kibibi welcomed the new executive director Winona Bynum. She thanked the board, especially the Executive Committee, Hiring Committee, and Nominating Committee, for their work and support while she served in the interim position.

The retreat will be Friday, February 27, 8:30am-4:30pm. The location is still being determined. Current and previous council members and all DFPC staff will participate. Renee Wallace will serve as our facilitator for the retreat. We will form a Design Team to develop the agenda for the retreat. Suezette, Lydia, and Colin have volunteered to participate in the Design Team. The Design Team will have two meetings before the retreat, and will help to lead some of the activities during the retreat.

The Coordinator's report includes a list of committees and work groups. Please see the Notes From the Field schedule included in Coordinator's report. This is an opportunity to share information on a policy issue, event or action you think DFPC members should know about or take action on. If you would like to be included in the Notes From the Field schedule let Kibibi know.

The Michigan Citizen will no longer be publishing a print newspaper; they published the last print edition on December 28. It is unclear if they will continue to publish an online version of the paper. Until I hear more information from the editor we will not be submitting articles for the Food Is Life column.

10) Reports from Governmental Representatives

- a. Department of Health and Wellness Promotion – Velonda
See earlier presentation
- b. Legislative Branch Report – Kathryn Underwood
CPC will begin outreach for urban livestock guild and livestock ordinance. The work for the ordinance is on schedule. Out of 7000 submissions in the country Kathryn's submission was chosen to submit a full proposal for Knight's City Challenge. The Uber Local Food System House project proposes that instead of tearing down all buildings on a block, the community can use buildings to develop indoor food growing projects. Ashley, Renee, and Orlando Thorp and Jessica Patton from Neighborhood Bug have worked on the proposal with Kathryn. Charles Cross and Blair Mathew Evans are also working on the proposal. The proposal will be due February 1
- c. Executive Branch Report
Garry Bullock has newly been appointed as our representative from the Mayor's Office.

11) Next Meeting – February 10, 2015 @ Eastern Market

12) Public Comments

Julie Rosenbaum – Wayne State University Center for School Health, Building Healthy Communities. This program is available to all Michigan elementary schools. She distributed information about the program to share with anyone that has connections to elementary schools.

Lauryn Hong –Food Corps member in Wayne State University Center for School Health
Shirley Brown – Elder Law of MI healthy eating coach that works with seniors in Detroit and helps seniors eat well and access resources for food assistance.

Discussion: one concern in the city of Detroit is the lack of awareness about the Project Fresh Senior Coupons. The percentage of redemption is very low. How can you work with the seniors to get higher redemption rates in the city?

Seniors find out about the program very late in the season.

Medgar Clark – community member, Urban Roots graduate, Greening Apprenticeship program

Renee Wallace – DOERS Consulting and Food Plus Detroit. Food Plus will be hosting one of the focus groups about the Economic Impact Study, and will have open network meetings three times a year. Renee will send dates to Kibibi to send out to everyone. Food Plus is working on developing composting infrastructure for food waste, supporting Kathryn’s efforts in developing the urban livestock work, and developing a platform to share innovation.
Medgar – welcome to Winona Bynum

13) Announcements

14) Comments from Winona Bynum

I’m excited to be here and work with you.

15) Adjournment