

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
Nokomis Public Library, located at 5100 34th Ave S Minneapolis, MN
3:00 – 5:00 pm

Attendance: Aaron Reser, Alison Rotel, Bob Lind, Deborah Ramos, Eric Larsen, Gayle Prest, Julie Ristau, Kristine Igo, Kurt Schreck, Neil Oxendale, Patty Bowler, Rhys Williams, Russ Henry, Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer, Katie Lampi, Tracy Singleton, Beth Dooley

Others in Attendance: Jane Shey (Homegrown Minneapolis Consultant), John Parker (Humphrey School of Public Affairs student), Megan O’Hara, Robin Garwood (Council Member Cam Gordon’s policy aide), Charley Underwood, Council Member Sandy Colvin Roy

Absent:

Mustafa Sundiata, Erica Prosser, Rebecca Reed, Cam Gordon

Introductions of Guests and Opening

Beth Dooley opened the meeting by talking about her style of chairing meetings as to encourage public participation, and to let visitors speak and participate once Food Council members have spoken.

Member Updates:

- Gayle Prest: Public Hearing regarding ordinance revisions for honey bee on rooftops scheduled for April 3 at Public Safety Civil Rights and Health Committee. There are city staff volunteers that are interested in raising 2-3 hives on City Hall greenroof if we can raise \$1400-\$2100.
- Charley Underwood is sugar mapling 37 trees in south Minneapolis.
- Alison Rotel: Blue Cross Blue Shield will be announcing soon which farmers markets will be receiving “Market Bucks” grants in conjunction with EBT.
- Jane Shey: There are upcoming tabling opportunities at community events, if interested in volunteering please see Jane. The issue was raised of when it might be appropriate to put out other organization’s information at the Homegrown table - this will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Kurt Schreck made a motion, seconded by Eric Larson to approve February minutes with the addition of CURA contact. Unanimously passed.

Discussion led by Kris Igo about 2013 Potential Food Council Projects

At the last meeting there was a good discussion about the role of Food Council members and 2013 potential projects based on SMART project model (specific, measurable, actionable, realist, time-oriented). Twelve projects were identified. Since that time, all Food Council members voted on those projects that they were most interested in working on and whether they were interested in a leadership role. The top six potential projects based on the survey were identified and Kris provided an opportunity for members to advocate for those not on the top 6 listing before proceeding. There were no projects added. The top six were: Staple Food Ordinance, Wirth Cooperative Grocery Store, Evaluation of Urban Ag Plan, Selection/Recruiting

of Potential New Food Council Members, Increase EBT at Farmers Markets, and Increased Land and Water Access. These six were discussed individually by the Food Council as to what the issues were, what the project might entail, potential timing issues, partners, etc. Food Council members were then asked to vote using sticky dots on their top project and next project that they were most interested in working on. The EBT project was dropped due to lack of votes. Members then broke up into five groups to begin completing the project worksheet on next steps. The Urban Ag Plan, and Land and Water Access group decided to merge.

In the future, the last 30 minutes of Food Council meetings will be devoted to these small groups, but it was recognized that most groups will also need to communicate outside of meetings as well. Each group is to identify a key contact. Volunteers from outside the Food Council are invited to participate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.