

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Thursday, December 18, 2013
Kafe 421 14th Avenue SE
4:30 – 5:00 pm

Attendance: Katie Lampi, Alison Rotel, Kris Igo, Russ Henry, Julie Ristau, Bob Lind, Patty Bowler, Aaron Reser, Eric Larsen, Gayle Prest, Mustafa Sundiata, Kurt Schreck, Beth Dooley

Absent: Tracy Singleton, Rhys Williams, Deborah Ramos, Cam Gordon, Rebecca Reed, Erica Prosser, Sara Nelson Pallmeyer

Others in Attendance: Jane Shey (Homegrown Minneapolis Consultant), Vish Vasani (Prevention Specialist), Andrew Dahl, DeVon Nolan, Zoe Holloman

1. Meeting called to order. Introductions were made; the three new Food Council members (starting in 2014) were welcomed. Bob Lind made a motion, seconded by Eric Larsen to approve the November meeting minutes, and this passed unanimously.

2. Vote on Draft Letter to MPRB re: Urban Agriculture

- The group reviewed the draft letter to the MPRB developed by Russ Henry, Alison Rotel, Eric Larson, Aaron Riser, Robin Garwood and Gayle Prest regarding MPRB's draft Urban Agriculture Plan. The draft letter was emailed to Food Council members earlier this month for comment. A motion was made by Alison Rotel and seconded by Mustafa Sundiata to approve. Motion carried. Russ Henry remarked that hopefully Food Council will also provide testimony at the public hearing regarding the matter tentatively scheduled for February. DeVon Nolan appreciated the urban farmer comments based on the efforts underway in North Minneapolis.

3. Proposed Food Council Orientation

- Jane Shey discussed the proposed orientation agenda for the January Food Council meeting. This was discussed at the last Executive Committee meeting. It is not meant to be all encompassing but rather a grounding of city structure, bylaws, etc. Jane is also trying to meet with new Food Council members prior to the January meeting. Much of the information is available on the Homegrown Minneapolis website. If you are interested in helping to plan the orientation please contact Jane.

4. Dot Group Activity Results from Open House Event at Walker Art Center

- Vish Vasani updated the group on the results from this year's Open House "Dot Survey" activity, which had the goal of soliciting feedback from community members during the Open House event. Nine priorities were listed based on feedback from Food Council members prior to the event, and there was also a blank page for new ideas. Community members had three dots to choose their priority. The top three priorities were: 1) Explore and promote models to support local food business development and training 2) Support the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council's Land access/Urban Agriculture Working Group 3) Expand curbside organic waste collection citywide. About 250 people attended the event compared to about 180 in 2012.

5. Other:

- The City of Minneapolis recently approved 2014 budget includes funding for a fulltime staff person to work on Homegrown activities.

- A motion was made by Gayle Prest and seconded by Russ Henry to schedule the January Food Council meeting on January 15 from 5:30-7:30. Motion carried. This date was chosen based on a doodle poll earlier this month.

6. Meeting adjourned at 5:06pm.

Approved, January 15, 2014