



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

5:00-5:25 pm Pre-meeting optional presentation

5:30-7:30 pm Food Council meeting

Gardening Matters

Sabathani Center, Room J, 310 E 38th Street, Minneapolis

Draft Agenda

- 5:30 pm 1) Introduction of guests, approval of the agenda and September meeting minutes (Attachment 1)
- 5:35 pm 2) Presentation, discussion and approval: Real Food Challenge letter (Real Food Challenge staff; Zoe Hollomon, Kris Igo) (Attachment 2)
- 5:45 pm 3) Presentation: Union of Concerned Scientists gathering (DeVon Nolen)
- 5:55 pm 4) Discussion: Food Council empowerment and engagement (Janice Barbee, facilitator)
- 7:00 pm 5) Working group discussion- Full Council: Community Outreach and Engagement (Open House updates and promotion)
- 7:15 pm 6) Working group and task force updates:
- Land access
 - Community Outreach and engagement
 - Organics
 - Animals
 - Hubs/Aggregation
 - MPRB Urban Agriculture Implementation Team
- 7:25 pm 7) Food Council member and guest updates; future agenda items
- 7:30 pm 8) Meeting adjourns

Next Food Council Meeting:

Wednesday, November 4, 2015 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Land Stewardship Project, 821 E 35th St, Minneapolis, MN 55407, in the large downstairs conference room.



About Homegrown Minneapolis and the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council

Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative expanding our community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods. Homegrown Minneapolis brings together key partners from local government, area businesses, community organizations, non-profits, and residents to build a healthy, local food system.

The Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council envisions a vibrant local food system that enhances the health of all residents, protects the earth, increases economic vitality, expands social connectedness, and improves food security. To continue to advance Homegrown Minneapolis, the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council works to support all Minneapolis residents and increase access to quality food, address hunger and food insecurity, connect sectors of the food system, influence policy and decision making, and ensure an environmentally sustainable and socially just food system. To accomplish this, the food council:

1. fosters City-community partnerships;
2. convenes and engages diverse stakeholders to identify and propose innovative solutions to improve the local food system;
3. provides ongoing guidance to the City on local food issues; and
4. serves as a platform for collaborative, coordinated action.

For more information, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/homegrown

Robert's Rules of Order

The Food Council utilizes Robert's Rules of Order to provide standard rules and procedures that will allow the Food Council to facilitate meetings, discussions and group decision-making. Some basic elements:

I. *Motion*

- **Use:** To **introduce** a new piece of business or propose a decision or action
- **Language:**
 - 1st motion – "I move to/that..."
 - 2nd motion – "I second it."
 - Group votes on motion – "All in favor of adopting the motion to ... say *Aye*. Those opposed, say *No*."
 - Co-chair announces result of the vote – e.g. "The motion passes (fails)..."
- **Example(s):**
 - Approval of meeting minutes
 - Postpone consideration of a matter
 - Study/research an issue further

II. *Amend*

- **Use:** To **change** a motion under consideration
- **Language:**
 - 1st member - "I move to amend the motion ..."
 - 2nd motion – "I second the amendment."
 - Group votes to decide whether the amendment is accepted – "All in favor of adoption the amendment say *Aye*. Those opposed, say *No*."
- **Example:**
 - Amend a motion
 - Amend language in a Resolution Statement or Letter of Support



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 5:30-7:30 pm meeting
FOOD BUILDING
1401 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis

Attendance: Aaron Reser, Alison Babb, Bob Lind, Cam Gordon, DeVon Nolen, Gayle Prest, Katie Lampi, Kris Igo, Patty Bowler, Russ Henry, Rhys Williams, Zoe Hollomon, Andrea Northup, Beth Dooley, Ginger Cannon, Jillia Pessenda, Pakou Hang

Others in Attendance: Tyrone Folliard-Olson, Kieran Folliard, Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Donald Warneke, Robin Garwood, Karen Clark, Megan O'Hara, Gene Ranieri, Michael Chaney, Jack Byers, Bob Patton, Paul Hugunin, Patsy Parker, Caroline Devaney, Ron McConico, Candy Bakion, Lizzi Whittlesey, Karl Hakanson, Ari Baum-Hommes, Grace Borg, Katherine Fines, Linda Rogers, Jason Gottfried, Valentine Cadieux, Catherine Fleming, Janice Barbee, Karen Wells

Absent: Andrew Dahl, Jesus Perez, Erick Garcia Luna, Omari Chatman

Pre-meeting presentation: Tyrone Folliard-Olson and Kieran Folliard of FOOD BUILDING gave an overview of its history and current activities, including Red Table Meat Company and Lone Grazer Creamery.

1. Introductions of Food Council Members and guests. Russ Henry, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order. The members and visitors each made introductions. An ice breaker followed on what is the most interesting food you've tasted.

2. Meeting Agenda and Minutes: The approval of August meeting minutes and the September agenda was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

4. Minneapolis Comprehensive Planning Process. Jack Byers, Manager of the City's Long Range Planning Division within the Community Planning and Economic Development Department, gave a presentation on the City's process for the development of the City's next Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan), which is due to the Met Council in late 2018. Cities, townships and counties in the seven-county area prepare comprehensive plans as required by the Metropolitan Land Planning Act. The process will include a Steering Committee, Core Staff Team, Technical Committee and a number of Task Force (subject-matter specific) groups that will be the content generators – topics not yet determined. Jack shared a project timeline that showed initial background activities are already in process, and a formal kickoff starting Quarter 1, 2016. The Comp Plan will be a main topic at spring 2016 Community Connections Conference (Neighborhood and Community Relations Dept's annual neighborhood convening). Jack also talked about the issues in thinking about how to accommodate 10-20% population growth in approximately 25 square miles while balancing livability and individual preferences for density versus personal/cultural space, urban ag as well as supporting industrial uses and jobs.



5. Food Council Recommendation on Comprehensive Planning Process. After much discussion and friendly amendments, Patty Bowler made a motion, which was seconded that the Food Council recommend that the Comprehensive Plan process include: 1) issues related to food in as many task forces as possible, 2) consider including a task force devoted to food as well, and 3) that the Food Council be kept informed throughout the process. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion on MN Urban Ag and Food Hub legislation. Paul Hugunin with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) reviewed the recently passed state legislation regarding food hubs and urban agriculture, answered questions and solicited feedback, and reviewed MDA resources.

MDA is required to issue a report related to food hubs and is in the process of issuing an RFP to hire a consultant. There is not a definition of a food hub in the legislation. About \$200,000 is expected to be available for food hubs in the next year.

The urban ag legislation requires MDA to convene stakeholders and report to the state legislature with a plan to promote urban ag. While there is a definition in the legislation, people are free to suggest edits. People gave their comments - sometime conflicting - on what they thought. Comments included whether to include in the definition of urban ag things such as bees, fish, mushrooms, flowers, and/or plants used for clothing/dyes and medicinal uses. Another question/comment was whether to specify in the definition if the plant was for consumption or sale or both and how to include the positive values to the community.

Pakou Hang talked about the conundrum for small Hmong farmers who tend to live in the city but farm in the rural area. As a result they cannot apply for many existing MDA grants and possibly the new urban ag grants. Karen Clark talked about the importance of setting jurisdictional limits such as a city or county since this would be important for possible future incentives and land permanency.

Homegrown Minneapolis and Food Council website and official documents have a variety of urban ag statements and definitions including “The Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council envisions a vibrant local food system that enhances the health of all residents, protects the earth, increases economic vitality, expands social connectedness, and improves food security” and “improving the growth, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste management of healthy, locally grown foods within the city.”

If persons are interested in commenting they should contact Paul at (651) 201-6510 or paul.hugunin@state.mn.us

Ron McConico talked about his organization, Youth Resources, which exists for the advancement of urban youth and organizations that serve them to reduce illiteracy, poverty, crime and fatherlessness including through aquaponics and growing vegetables.

7. Food Council Empowerment and Engagement. Led by Devon Nolen, Russ Henry and Tamara Downs Schwei, the Executive Committee is delving into opportunities/training for the Food Council to build greater member empowerment. With limited time remaining at the meeting, the group gave feedback on the draft goals (attachment 3) in order to better develop a contract to hire a consultant to



help the Food Council with this work. The Executive Committee will continue to work on and bring back to full Food Council.

8. Working Group Break-Outs and updates. Due to time constraints this was removed from agenda.

9. Member and guest updates.

- 2015 Growing Food and Justice for All Gathering H.E.A.L Our Food System September 25-27, 2015 in Chicago.
- Community Garden Day: September 19- Check Gardening Matters website for details.
- Minneapolis Public Schools Farm to School Barbecue: September 24 – Food Council will have a table, please volunteer.
- Food Council member applications accepted through October 2nd.
- Jason Gottfried is interested in developing a cooperative greenhouse. Please see him after the meeting for more info.
- 6th Annual WEI/Growing Power Regional Training Weekend: Saturday and Sunday ~ October 3rd & 4th, 2015.
- The 2015 Food Sovereignty Summit will be held October 26-29, 2015 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. This is a forum for sharing and collaboration to build healthy food systems within First Nation communities.
- Please sign up to volunteer to help with Food Council member recruitment.
- Donald Warneke talked about the benefits if SNAP/EBT use was allowed for food for inmates. If anyone is interested in working to change these rules so that prison inmates may receive health and nutrition education prior to their release as well as providing a resource for the prisons to provide healthier food, he is organizing a meeting. Please contact Donald directly.
- On Saturday, Sept 12 celebrate with the Hmong American Farmers Association's Farm Open House in Coates.
- Pollinator resolution focused on city property chemical usage and pollinator plantings passed the Minneapolis City Council and was co-authored by Food Council member Cam Gordon.
- In late October, CPED is expected to bring to the City Council recommendations for revised guidelines for leasing and selling vacant lots for agricultural purposes.
- Come join in an event at Finnegans (non-profit brewery) to help TCALT (Twin Cities Agricultural Land Trust) on Thursday, September 10th.
- West Broadway Farmers Market will be celebrating its fifth year on Sept 25.

10. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

October 14, 2015

Dear President Kaler and University of Minnesota Administrators,

We, the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council, are writing in support of the University of Minnesota Real Food Challenge (UMN RFC) student committee and the U Students Like Good Food group (USLGF). Their mission *to increase local, just and sustainable food purchasing at the University* is critical to the health of our students, the health of the state's economy and the health of our planet. Committing to the UMN RFC is fully in line with the University's mission as a Land Grant institution and its proclaimed sustainability goals.

Through research and innovation, the University of Minnesota has helped develop a global agricultural economy. However, this industrial food system has presented us with numerous challenges-- climate change, income inequality and diet-related disease epidemics. What is required to combat some of these ails is a shift to a more sustainable and local food system. As a leading research and education institution, the U of M's commitment to sustainability currently plays out in its efforts to create green buildings, green transportation and renewable energy. Now, by fully supporting local food purchasing, the University will truly demonstrate its commitment to sustainability as well as to the local economy and local communities here.

Considering its size, the University of Minnesota has the purchasing power to dramatically impact the economic and environmental health of the region today and in the future. Increased local purchases from small and mid-sized family farmers will support businesses that reinvestment in our local economy, reduce the U's carbon footprint and use of fossil fuels, produce healthier food, and reduce local food security risks, such as price inflation and food contamination. A commitment to sustainably-raised, local food would demonstrate the U of M's mission to support the environment, economy as well as healthier food options for its student body.

To help accomplish the pledge outlined in the Real Food Challenge Commitment, there are many resources available within 150 miles of the Twin Cities, such as family farmers, distributors, procurement experts, non-profit organizations, elected officials, and advocates, all working to help make local and fair food the clear and easy choice. Already, many of the University's student groups, professors, and food and dining service professionals are engaged in this effort. It is now time for the university's leadership to make a full institutional commitment to increasing local, just and sustainable food purchasing.

By signing on to this challenge, the University will help realize the vision outlined in the Minnesota Food Charter, a statewide roadmap to create healthy, prosperous communities. The U of M will be joining The Real Food Challenge network of over 30 institutions including Macalester College, Northwestern University, Johns Hopkins University and 23 University of California schools who have signed on and pledged over \$60 million to purchase local, fair, sustainable and humane food. We do not want the U to be left out of this legacy; rather we want the U to be a leader.

We strongly recommend the University of Minnesota sign the Real Food Campus Commitment.

Sincerely,

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Policy Council

Attachment 2