



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

5:00-5:30 pm pre-meeting discussion:

Sustainable Farming Association, Soil Health and Main Street Vitality

5:30-7:30 pm Food Council meeting

Rainbow Chinese Restaurant, 2739 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis

Members in Attendance: Amy Maas, Beth Dooley, DeVon Nolen, Jaime Harris, Jason Walker, Kate Seybold, Kristen Klingler, Mary Vorndran, Rachelle Pass, Rogue Farmer, Sophie Wallerstedt, Tasha Powell

Members Absent: Alyssa Banks, Caroline Devany, Dana Boyer, Deb Brister, Ellen Kennedy, Heidi Ritchie, Mai Yang, Council Member Phillippe Cunningham, Suado Abdi, Zainab Youngmark

Others in Attendance: Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis/Food Policy Coordinator), Claire Baglien (Homegrown Minneapolis/Food Policy Program Aide), Kim Havey, Hannah Ramer, Armel Martin, Hannah Lagoon, Emily Minge, Katie Myhre, Kellie Kish, Theresa Keaveny, Donald Warneke

1) Welcome and Opening Circle (DeVon Nolen, all)

Tasha Powell called the meeting to order.

2) Food Council Business

a) Vote: Approve July 2018 Food Council Meeting Minutes and August Agenda (Attachment 1) (DeVon Nolen)

Kate Seybold moved to approve the July Food Council meeting minutes and August agenda. Sophie Wallerstedt seconded and both were approved unanimously.

3) Presentation, Discussion, and Vote: MPRB Draft Community Garden Policy Update and Food Council Letter of Support (Attachment 2) (Ellen Kennedy, Rogue Farmer)

Rogue Farmer gave an overview of the MPRB Draft Community Garden Policy and specific recommendations within a proposed draft letter of support to be considered for approval and submitted to MPRB by the Food Council. The most recent draft of the community garden policy was created with feedback from various community organizations and community members. The draft letter encouraged approval of the draft community garden policy along with a recommendation to support funding for a staff position to implement the program. After discussion, Food Council members suggested adding an additional recommendation that MPRB provide racial equity training for staff and community garden leads.

Beth Dooley moved to approve the letter of support with the recommended additions. Kate seconded and the letter was approved unanimously.

4) Homegrown Minneapolis Urban Scholar Presentation (Cheryl Townsend)

Cheryl Townsend shared her reflections and talked about the projects she worked on during her summer as an Urban Scholar with Homegrown Minneapolis.



5) Breakout Groups: Food Council Working Groups and Task Forces met.

6) Report Back: Food Council Working Groups and Task Forces

The Healthy and Inclusive Food Access working group is focused on making the Staple Foods Ordinance more inclusive and culturally-appropriate. The group recently conducted a couple of interviews with food store owners regarding their customers' preferences, which will help to inform a list of recommendations and potential changes to the ordinance.

The Healthy Food and Waste working group is collaborating on reducing, donating, and preventing food waste. Additional projects may include collecting recipes from the community to engage people around how to use different parts of plants and creating a 'meeting in a box' for neighborhoods or businesses to learn more about food donation guidelines and how to prevent food waste.

The Urban Agriculture working group dug deeper into the proposed MPRB Community Garden Policy, specifically focusing on equity within the policy. The group also proposed that Homegrown Minneapolis pilot some of the recommendations for the MPRB Community Garden Policy with the City's current garden lease program.

The Local Food Links – Purchasing and Procurement group spent time identifying barriers that farmers and distributors are facing in selling their products locally.

7) Updates and Announcements (All)

- Executive Committee election for open seat, September Food Council meeting
- Farmers Market Week is August 5-11
- Kate announced the annual MPS Farm to School BBQ on September 8th
- Mary Vorndran announced that Eat for Equity is helping to host Building Bridges and Breaking Bread on August 16th to celebrate the re-opening of the E 38th Street bridge
- Amy Maas announced that Hennepin County has draft language available revising the County's recycling ordinance, which has not been changed since 1986. The draft will be open for public comment until August 17th

8) Closing Circle (DeVon Nolen, all)

9) Meeting adjourns

Beth moved to adjourn the meeting. Jason Walker seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next Food Council Meeting: Wednesday, September 12, 2018

5:00-5:30 pm pre-meeting presentation from Midwest Pantry

5:30-7:30 pm meeting; Food Foundry, 3147 California Street NE, Minneapolis