

Detroit Food Policy Council – April 12, 2011

5:30 – 7:00 pm

In attendance: Cheryl Simon, Patrick Crouch, Phil Jones, Olga Stella, Ashley Atkinson, Kami Pothukuchi, Kathryn Underwood, Sharon Quincy, Charles Walker, Charity Hicks, Pam Weinstein, Dan Carmody, Minsu Longiaru, Lisa Nuszowski, Anntinette McCain,

Guests: Cheryl Danley

Minutes

- Minutes reviewed and approved as is.

DFPC Coordinator Report (see report)

- Focused on planning for the summit and forums leading up to the forum. Outreach materials are available in English and Spanish. So far 3,000 flyers and 1,500 postcards have been distributed. Basic information is available on website and registration materials are coming in. Press release has been sent to more than 50 media outlets. A handful of radio and print media outlets have either posted the information or requested interviews. Information on both the summit and forums will be sent out this week to elected officials.
- Production of the Food Report is moving along. Still need high-resolution photos as well as bios and photos from each Council Member.
- Hosted a webinar for advocacy and lobbying with Kellogg earlier today.
- Nomination committee has met.
- Rotation for Michigan Citizen submissions has been updated. If you are not on the list and would like to be please see Cheryl. Question: Malik – Do we have any articles prepared in case someone is not able to meet the deadline? Cheryl, Phil and Dan volunteered to draft one article each that could be used in case of an emergency.

Treasurer's Report (see report)

- Financial systems are up and running.
- Received second year funding, \$30,000 from Food and Fitness Initiative.
- Cash balance is \$10,243.60 as of today but this does not include the Food and Fitness Initiative check, which will be deposited in the account tomorrow. Comment: Kami – Concerned funding is coming from just one source. Cheryl – Will begin exploring other options after the summit. Charity – would like to explore requesting funds from the City.

Making Good Food Work Conference Update – Charles Walker

The conference is next week. Charles will be giving the welcome address at the conference and is looking for some talking points. Comment: Charity – The Council should be notified about members speaking on behalf of the Council. Patrick – We should try to find balance between communicating with Council and empowering Council members to act. Olga – Comfortable with these matters and requests being vetted by Executive Committee. Cheryl – Working on a general DFPC presentation and talking points that will be helpful for Charles and others address groups for DFPC. Would like volunteers to edit and provide feedback. Kami and Maik volunteered. Kathryn – will be talking to a community group in Flint about forming a Food Policy Council. Malik – provided technical assistance on the formation of Food Policy Councils to a group in New Brunswick NJ. Cheryl – there was a third request from Washtenaw County. Patrick – In the future these requests should be directed to DFPC Coordinator so they can be documented. Cheryl Danley (guest) – Working with a group in Lansing to develop a Food Policy

Council. She suggested DFPC help pull together a community of practice in lower Michigan. Kami – Benefits could be co-learning as well as co-authoring policy for the region and state. Olga – Our participation should be intentional and add value to our local work. Malik – Hearing no objections; Cheryl please keep us posted. Kathryn Underwood will be the DFPC point person moving forward. Charity – Charles, please mention the Summit and Forums in your opening comments.

Webinar on Advocacy and Lobbying

W.K. Kellogg Foundation hosted a one-hour webinar this afternoon focused on advocacy and lobbying outlining what we can and cannot do as a non-profit organization. Because we are currently funded solely by the Kellogg Foundation, we cannot engage in any lobbying, that is communicating with legislators on specific legislation that states an opinion or view. We can educate legislators about issues and policy. Comment: Olga: I thought advocacy efforts were limited by the percentage of organizational resources used to conduct these activities. If we aren't spending any cash of advocacy, why can't we do it? Kami – we should do more research. Cheryl will forward the presentation from the webinar to all Council members.

Senator Stabenow's 2012 Farm Bill Hearing

Kami – The April 9th Hearing has been postponed and we have until the 14th to submit a general statement of findings about what's going on the Detroit Food System and ask for support for the positive things happening in the Detroit Food System. What kind of involvement would the Council like to have in this submission? Group reached a consensus to submit a statement. Kami will draft and send out by tomorrow end of day.

Committee Reports

Hiring Committee (Patrick and Cheryl reported)

Program Manager position posted. We received 27 applicants and interviewed 7. A scoring rubric was used to evaluate the interviewees. Group consensus was to allow Executive Committee to review the recommendations of the Hiring Committee and make an offer to the top candidate.

Nominating Committee: (Cheryl reported)

Anyone interested in participating on the Executive Committee, please a member of the Nominating Committee (Cheryl, Anntinette, Olga, or Ashley).

Annual Food System Report: (Kami)

Report is finished. Kami has met with consultants and is very confident in their experience and ability to do the job. This is the time to start thinking about next years report. Someone should volunteer to lead the process for next year's report and that should be a discussion point on next month's agenda. Kami will email PDFs all of the entire report. Printer has been selected, a Detroit-based union company. Designer is also a Detroit-based company

Powering Up the Local Food System Summit: (Phil, see report)

Committee met last night. Phil presented Work Group Facilitator Guidelines. Anntinette McCain provided an update for the Schools and Institutional Foods Work Group. Question: Pam – Are we making forums and events accessible? Phil – Working on Spanish translation support for forum at Holy Redeemer, making sure all sites are handicapped accessible, and at least one signer for the hearing impaired at each event. Charity – Will work on finding resources for scholarships for 200+ community residents. Registration is open online, 12 have registered. Council members should register on-line.

Reports from Governmental Representatives

Executive Branch Report - (Taja, see report)

Executive Branch Report - (Lisa)

Lisa is Senior Associate for Planning and Facilities and works directly with Karla Henderson. Policy audits were posted on Detroit Works website a week ago. This document includes sections on Urban Agriculture and Food Systems (detroitworksproject.com). Lisa spoke to Margaret Meal earlier today about the City Garden Permit. She said decisions about the Permit revisions were internal. The 2011 permit is considered a working document. Lisa will provide written reports moving forward. Malik – In the future we would expect community stakeholders and the Detroit Food Policy Council to be engaged in discussion around policy and procedural changes relating to Urban Agriculture and Food Systems. Planning and Development will be doing site visits in month of May. Lisa and Kathryn will work together to figure out next steps.

Legislative Branch Report – (Kathryn, see written report)

Food Policy Council presentation before City Council will not take place until after budget process wraps up in June. Malik – will try and get the presentation scheduled before June. Kathryn is requesting DFPC's support and involvement in CPC's public learning sessions. Comment: Kami – Would like to urge the Mayor to engage the Governor and other Michigan leaders in Detroit's issues related to Right to Farm.

Department of Health and Wellness Promotion – In process of applying for SNAP-ED grant. In the past Department has received \$200,000 from grant. WIC program received \$130,000 grant to promote breast feeding. Last week was National Public Health week. Theme was mind, body, and soul. Grand rounds aired monthly on Comcast Cable; May session will be on bed bugs June will focus on men's health.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 5:30PM at the Eastern Market Corporation.

Announcements

- Kathryn Underwood presenting "Is my garden legal" from 2-4PM at Main Library on April 16th.
- Garden Resource Program Cold Crop distributions this Thursday and Saturday.
- Undoing Racism in the Detroit Food System training coming up at the end of the month.
- April 28th 4-8PM at Sacred Heart Church, People's Movement Assembly gathering to discuss people's vision for the future of Detroit.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 PM