



PORTLAND-MULTNOMAH FOOD POLICY COUNCIL



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Sam Adams, Mayor • Jeff Cogen, County Chair

MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012

FPC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lisa Barba

Dave Barmon

Kyle Curtis

Shawn DeCarlo

Michael Doherty

Andy Eiden

Andy Fisher

Patrick Gorman

Hanna Kullberg

John Mitchell

Will Newman

Amelia Pape

Sara Pool

Charles Robertson

Jeffrey Rowe

Tammy VanderWoude

Blake Van Roekel

Adriana Voss-Andreae

Anita Yap

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Rachel Banks

Katie Lynd

Tera Wick

FPC MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Monica Cuneo

David McIntyre

Stephanie Jo Pearson

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Melissa Balding

Moanna Wright

Leslie Pohl-Kosbau

Ingrid Attleson

Beth Cohen

Adam Kohl

Molly Hatfield

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Anita Yap opened the meeting at 4:05 p.m. all present introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from December 14th

Will Newman moved to approve.

Shawn DeCarlo seconded.

Hannah Kullberg mentioned a correction in the minutes sent to Steve Cohen, regarding the occupation of Sara Pool.

Minutes unanimously approved with correction.

Newman reminds council members that they must abstain if they were not at the actual meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENT

Yap called for announcements.

Molly Hatfield announced Cohen's absence.

Leslie Pohl-Kosbau brought up the Earth Care Summit at the Highland Christian Center on January 30th from 5:30 to 8:30. Those interested in attending can register online.

Newman shared that the annual OSALT meeting is Saturday at Tryon Life State Park, and the public is encouraged to attend.

Scott Yelton of Portland Purple Water mentioned the organization is branching out into aquaponics and will be hosting workshops. Visit pdxpurple.com for more information.

Kullberg announced an opening for a production cook at the Better Bean Company.

Kyle Curtis announced there will be a screening of 'Food Stamped' at the Bagdad Theater. Earl Blumenauer will speak (visit [McMenamins website](http://McMenamins.com) for more information).

Yap announced that the Northwest Environmental Health Conference will host a Food For Thought evening on Feb 9th.

CHAIR REPORT

Yap said a full debrief of the Food Policy Council orientation will happen Monday and thanked everyone who came and especially those who organized.

STAFF REPORT

Katie Lynd welcomed the new members and shared copies of the MFAP.

Rachael Banks mentioned the Health Department's participation in the Center for Disease Control's ACHIEVE (Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and EnVironmental changE) Grant Program where communities across the nation are partnered with one another to eliminate health disparities, Multnomah County's team will act as a mentor to a Wisconsin community. The Health Department is also looking for a Healthy Schools Coordinator to work with seven school districts. There will also be an

opening for a registered dietician. Information for both positions will be available at Multcojobs.org

Tera Wick added that they are currently reviewing applications for mini Healthy Retail Grants and should hopefully be funding 14 retailers. The program's 'tech assistant' workshops are very popular and Charles Robertson is using his experience at village market to pass on information to store owners.

The Healthy Retail Initiative enables small retailers who serve and are operated by minorities to sell healthy, culturally appropriate food in their communities. Grants and workshops help store owners build capacity and increase the amount of healthy food they can offer. The initiative gives away about \$4,500 at a time (totaling \$60,000 in total funds) and offers workshops in topics that store owners are asking for assistance on. Funded through Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant and a Kaiser grant.

Curtis asked what the mini grants do?

Wick answered that store owners buy refrigeration, cash registers (to help them track inventory) and invest in other ways to improve their ability to be a successful business.

Yap asked how success is tracked.

Wick answered that they do a Healthy Options inventory, and then inventory again in six months, to find out if store products are healthy and can continued to be offered.

Robertson added that customers are really happy with the changes. Store owners are really happy with the changes.

Banks mentioned that success is also tracked through store owner and customer satisfaction. Kaiser Permanente is putting resources into evaluating success.

Robertson added that the healthy retail *network* is also a part of the success. Once the grant money is gone there will still be a network of stores with a joint purchasing group. Plaid Pantry has their network, 7-11 has their network, and hopefully these mom and pop stores will also have a network where they can jointly purchase items and increase their margins.

Lisa Barba asked if this program emphasizes local produce, or just getting produce into the store in the first place?

Wick answered that yes, they are looking at local purchasing.

Yap reported on the Grocery Store Initiative. Mayor Sam Adams wants to put grocery stores in underserved areas. This project started late last summer and PDC and BPS issued a request for interest and completed some interviews. The initiative worked on mapping regarding urban renewal and is emphasizing a range of assistance to be offered. A variety of food providers are interested and they are looking at ways to provide assistance in areas where PDC does not currently provide assistance. There are lots of folks from various projects coming together on this effort.

VICE CHAIR ELECTION

Yap explained that every January there are Vice –Chair elections which are open to new and returning members. The Vice-Chair is part of the Council’s executive committee and meets with the city and county regularly to deal with the logistical components of meetings and other items regarding the Council.

Yap nominated Monica Cuneo citing her previously mentioned interest in the position.

Cuneo’s statement of interest was read to the council.

Newman moved to close nominations.

Tammy VanderWoude seconded.

Nominations were closed and Cuneo unanimously approved as Vice-Chair.

OLD BUSINESS

Wick mentioned that she did not get a copy of the sign-in sheet and the names on the orientation notes may not be correct.

Adriana Voss-Andreae asked when additional bike rack issues will make it onto the list?

Pool asked about seed saving.

Newman expressed concern about the term ‘economic development’ and wants to start the conversation by re-examining the definition of ‘economy.’

Kullberg asked to join the economic development workgroup.

Patrick Gorman asked Curtis about the regional rural/urban food conference.

Curtis answered that it is an idea that came out of the past Food Summit and a conversation regarding rural Oregon food being dictated by urban Oregon ideas. These parts of the state have unique food (and other) issues beyond what are commonly discussed in the valley/cities. Why are these producers growing for China when there is hunger in our own state? Can this be part of the Food Summit?

Lynd asked about a rural development conference.

Yap brought up the relationship the FPC has with rural areas and other counties. There are opportunities for the FPC to have better relationships with other food councils. Craig Beebe wrote about state wide food policy issues, and as the FPC’s 10 year anniversary, it can be a good time to restart their connections to other policy councils. Also there is good progress happening around economic development.

Lynd mentioned that Janine Leaper will come in and present her work related to economic cluster development. Her report will be released in June. The Regulatory Barriers workgroup also working on the issues.

Newman mentioned that agriculture is the third largest income producer in Multnomah County and the city is not particularly in tune with how much rural area exists in the county.

Yap circled back to Voss-Andreae's question and answered that work groups are formed when someone with an interest starts one. City or county focused work can start a group and that we know there is a focus and a work plan for the group. The council has to make sure there is enough interest to fill out a group. Groups should be within the purview of the city or county, but we also need to make sure the issue is a priority. There are so many things going on these days, new members are suggested to listen in on existing work groups before signing up or starting their own.

Banks brought up that there will be time in February to sign up or put forth new workgroup ideas.

Yap said there are a lot of interesting ideas for new groups such as economic development or the farm bill.

Banks added that policy isn't as complicated as it seems, and invited council members to contact Banks, Lynd or Yap to talk about the policy goals of a workgroup or plan. Lynd echoed what Banks said about checking in regarding which work group ideas are part of what the city and county can or cannot do. For example there was a work group idea that Newman and Adam Kohl had that was not within the county's purview

Newman explained the idea of using underutilized land.

Kohl added that the language was already there, although it was not the time to invest resources into a policy change without a tangible example. If a possible project presents itself, the scoping has been done and it will be easier to get the project started.

VanderWoude asked if Voss-Andreae had an idea in mind.

Voss-Andreae answered that with our neighbors to the north potentially labeling GMOs it could be a time for Oregon to reintroduce a similar bill (using some of the language developed in Washington) last time a similar bill came up was in 2002.

VanderWoude mentioned to John Mitchell that the childhood hunger task force she is on would be a good topic for another group.

Banks mentioned that childhood hunger is also something that lines up with the Multnomah County Health Department.

Michael Doherty mentioned ConAgra's grant for childhood hunger.

Andy Eiden said he is in contact with a professor at PSU who is an expert on GMOs and can invite her to speak to the workgroup or council.

Newman stressed the difference between GMOs and food labeling.

Wick brought up the topic of racism and the need for a training about policies in Oregon that directly impacted or expressed racism in a historical context.

Robertson said he wants to mesh the 23 stores (of the healthy retail initiative) with the grocery store initiative brought up by the city. The PDC wants to back the grocery stores and they have the White money supporting them, while the healthy retail stores are only supported by the healthy retail initiative and themselves.

Yap answered that Sonia Manhas sits on the advisory board and Cohen, who is staff to the project, would be good contacts.

Yap also mentioned that the outreach and membership group was well attended and a good group to serve on.

Dave Barmon said that Yap has done a good job keeping the January meeting from being too crazy. The way that workgroups are put on hold for a few months first is really going to increase their ability to survive multiple terms. Encourages new members to participate in existing workgroups and suggests that a list of all workgroups, with a short explanation and meeting times be sent out to make it easier for new members to choose which workgroups to attend.

Andy Fisher expressed interest in starting a score card for the City/County which would use metrics to measure the health of the food system and how food secure our residents are. It could also look into what the local governments are doing.

Voss-Andreae mentioned that a lot is measured by the County already

VanderWoude agreed that the council can make some important observations with data about the 10 years that the council has existed.

Yap said that people wanted to look at the 10 year vision.

Kullberg reminded that there was a metrics meeting last year, and the Mayor is really interested in knowing these metrics

Kohl brought up that metrics can be very complicated

Moanna Wright asked if the council's notes were going to be available on the website and if there are going to be links to any new ideas or concepts

Blake Van Roekel asked if there is a directory of other food policy councils in the country.

Fisher answered that the Community Food Security Coalition has a website called foodpolicyconcil.org, and COMFOOD, GRIST, and FOOD FIRST are also good sources to look at.

Yap mentioned that workgroups are going to be talked about more in the February meeting.

Wick asked about the 2011 year end report.

Fisher asked about the relationship between the FPC and county and city officials. Is the FPC housed in any department? Do they report back to any departments?

Lynd answered that the FPC was formed out of ordinances from the city and county. Citizens are appointed by commissioners to advise government officials. Sustainability and Health overlap when it comes to their investment in food.

Banks added that the County Chair and Judy Shiprack sponsored the FPC, which reports back to the county. Commissioners and FPC staffers play a role in connecting, but not gate keeping

Pohl-Kosbau added that there is a ordinance about what policy members can and cannot do

Yap echoed that there are certain protocols that members need to comply with. Members can mention they are on the council, but never 'represent' the council. The relationship with the city and county have varying levels of support and communication.

Fisher asked if the FPC work touches on the work of many city and county offices and bureaus, why is the council only staffed by BPS? Why are there no other connections to other offices and government members?

Yap stated that Cohen has made it clear that Cohen is the conduit to the city.

Lynd said that as staffers we have a vested interest in being the ones who connect members to who they need to be connected to, but your connections could very well be better than those that come out of our offices

Banks added that it might be best to start with an issue or goal, and then look into which players and agencies could be important to that. County structure is unique in the fact that all commissioners work with all departments.

Barmon added that is also depends on who is funded to have FPC time be part of their paid time.

Curtis brought up that Metro and others were taking about developing their own food council.

Yap said they had discussions with metro to develop a more regional approach to connections.

Banks brought up that Multnomah County has been staffing the FPC for all 10 years, so they are well connected. There are different policy goals of the city and county and staffers are there to help navigate ways to coordinate political support.

Yap thanked the staffers from the city and county as it speaks to the huge commitment from both entities.

Barmon mentioned a past food policy conference and how other councils mentioned that they do not have staff and how it made it really hard for them to actually get anything done. Having staffers here makes the FPC much more efficient

NEW BUSINESS

Wick asked for any additions or edits to the orientation notes be sent to her by Monday, and the 2011 end of year report is ready. Any additions to the end of year support should be sent to her by Friday.

Lynd mentioned that the report can be shared with county commissioners

VanderWoude asked if the report should also be shared with city commissioners and the mayor?

Newman asked if the council was going to vote to edit it?

Newman motioned to accept the report.

DeCarlo seconded.

Motion approved.

Curtis, Eiden and Fisher abstained.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

DeCarlo announced that the Multnomah County Regulatory Barriers Workgroup has seen great overall participation. The group is looking at alternative food distribution hubs, community kitchens and land use and each of these topics has their own subgroup. There are going to be listening sessions with county staff and hopefully recommendations by March.

Lynd mentioned that this is a good example of how a policy window opened and the group is hoping to turn their soft recommendations into hard recommendation that will be folded into the food system cluster report.

DeCarlo announced that the Food Justice Workgroup wants to discuss how they can be integrated into the food summit. The group is working on developing a definition and gathering community feedback on that definition.

Robertson said the group has come a long way in making a definition in nine months.

Barmon announced he is kicking off a wild foods workgroup with Pool. They will possibly have workgroup meetings near Gresham. Barmon recently met with Ducks Unlimited, and with a Yakima fish biologist. The workgroup could possibly meet with the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission.

Yap reminded workgroups members to let Cohen know their meeting times so it can be open to everyone.

Newman asked if there are only two people in a workgroup then how can they have formal conversation in a non secretive way?

Yap answered that the conversations should happen in a public setting or notes should be taken and posted online.

John Mitchell asked if all the workgroup meetings are open to the public?

Pohl-Kosbau suggested guidelines should be made and shared.

Voss-Andreae asked if the Multnomah Food Action Plan is it part of the FPC's goals? Do workgroups have stated goals/scopes/workplans?

Lynd mentioned that Banks has a document that explains all of this and for more information one should contact the chairs of the workgroups.

Barba asked how are groups actually formed. Do we vote?

Yap answered that the FPC will talk about it in February

Wick added that in past years workgroups have had to submit workplans

Banks said new ideas and energy are a good thing to share. Kat and Sonia will be the chairs of the Food Summit work group.

VanderWoude mentioned that last year the FPC went to the food summit planning meetings.

Wright asked how the public can access emails that are sent out to council members.

Robertson raised concern about multiple events being scheduled on the day of the Food Summit.

Kullberg mentioned she wants the Food Summit Group to get started as soon as possible

Barmon requested time to discuss the FPC and social media at the next meeting.

Curtis added that if he can follow the Portland Police Bureau he should be able to follow the FPC.

Banks questioned whether or not they the FPC should have its own media identity or if the social media responsibility should fall on the City and County.

ADJORN

Yap adjourned the meeting at 6:02.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Any edits or additions to the Food Policy Council Orientation Notes, please sent to Wick by Monday**
- **Any updates to the Food Policy Council Year End Report should be sent to Wick by Friday**