

Meeting Minutes – FPAB February 2018 Board Meeting

In Attendance: Megan Harris, Sean Svette, Clarissa Dominguez, Sabrina Cotta, Erika Liljestrand, Rachel Stovall, Ellen Johnson-Fay

City Sustainability Department

Sabrina said the Office of Sustainability merged and became renamed and became the Innovation and Sustainability Office. This means we will tapped into smart cities initiative. There are subcommittees within sustainability that the FPAB can tie into when they have projects and vice versa.

Mayor's Sustainability Committees to connect with:

- Agriculture
- Natural & Environmental Health
- Economic Development
- Health
- Water Management

Sustainafest : April 14th 12-6 pm

The FPAB have an opportunity to participate in some form. Sabrina will also connect with CSU Extension about attending. Megan said Christina Richie is the contact and that she would like to attend our FPAB meetings.

Updates/Follow-up

Social Media

Joanna and Clarissa will do some posts until we can create a new social media schedule with new board members in place. Joanna brought up the interest in a composting video she posted recently, and that we weren't aware that Colorado Springs had a composting company. Clarissa said she would follow up with the new composting company that was brought up.

Local Food, Local Places – Tool Kit

Megan will review it over the next few weeks.

HEAL Summit

Ellen attended. She said the speakers were very diverse and inclusive and talked about what groups were left out of the conversation. She attended one workshop led by a Youth Board from Lafayette who worked on eliminating sugary drinks from local restaurants as an option for the youth. She also attended a workshop with Brian Katz and what's going on with the Meadows Park Community Center. Sabrina attended a policy workshop, and it didn't seem like they had a clear direction for state policy.

Possible Local Food Funding Sources

Sean brought up local food funding, and it started a discussion around the Automobile and Lodging Tax. Sabrina said that both taxes are lower than comparable cities. Sean talked about following the money and finding small pockets of money to pay for local food. He also talked about UCCS collaborating with Colorado College for some larger local food events, bringing in authors, etc. He said would like to see Local Food Week again. Megan explained that Local Food Week had been previously run by one person. Sabrina brought up that we need to define local and what that means with regards to food.

Food System Assessment

Sabrina said Aubrey has applied for funding from the Colorado Health Foundation for the continuing the food assessment. It's on hold until we hear back about the grant.

Local Tiers/Food Recognition Program

Sean suggested having an entity to validate who is purchasing locally and label tiers and recognize them via the media, an award, etc. Practice Greenhealth has resources in this area. Joanna said the group had discussed the possibility of the FPAB creating a Local Food Recognition Program. We looked at what the local food app was doing, but there is no accountability for the recognition. Sean is suggesting that purchasing information be mined and used instead of asking for and tracking records from individual businesses. Ellen suggested asking the farms where they sell their food. Megan suggested maybe looking into a tiered recognition program as one of our research projects for 2018. Megan said a lot of people are talking about putting guidelines around farmer's markets. She suggested maybe there is policy that could be enacted that states you can't be a third party reseller of produce at farmer's markets. Or maybe you need to have a certain percentage of growers to call it a farmer's market. Sean suggested that there be transparency, but he and Clarissa brought up that even if food isn't local at markets that it's often healthier food than they could be buying. Sabrina said there wouldn't be traction for a policy if it would potentially hurt our economy. Megan suggested if we can help people make choices easier than that would help people. She suggested tabling the issue for now. Sean brought up that wants to see more videos, info, photos telling local food stories, and that he wanted his students to potentially help. Joanna brought up the need for an all-encompassing local food web site and asked if UCCS could help. Sean said he is looking for website help and a lot of collaboration at UCCS.

Food Shed Forum: Feb. 24th 8 am-3 pm

Sean said Dan Hobbs will facilitate the day, which will be a local food leaders forum. He said Dan will facilitate discussion around various topics such as marketing, food access, food policy, etc. He sent out personal invites, and he is talking with communications department at UCCS about how to

collect info from the forum and keep sharing info until 2019 when we hold the next forum. He said the basic goals are to answer questions about what is possible now in local food and what isn't working as well as to come up with a general framework or goals for the future. His feeling is that the future of foodshed planning would be to have a separate Foodshed Leadership Forum and a Public Foodshed Forum to celebrate, educate, etc.

Beehive Ordinance

Sabrina said the Beehive Ordinance passed unanimously on the consent agenda on the first reading. The code change will be effective no later March 2018. The county also passed a similar ordinance.

Action Items

Megan and Sabrina discussed focusing on one action item a month to work on, and 1-2 research projects at a time.

Project List

- City-wide organic pesticide use
- Composting
- Pollinator Flowers – parks
- Farmers Market Standards/Quantities – CFAM issue
- Local Tiers/Food Recognition

Megan asked the group to look at this list and bring any ideas to add to this list to the March meeting. Sabrina will put together a timeline for moving the above ideas forward.

Administrative Issues

We have three open voting member positions and two alternates. Alternates won't vote and can be as involved as we want them to be. Interviews for open positions will be held the week of Feb. 19th. Nanna Meyer is no longer part of the board due to absences.

Megan will send out minutes that's our approval time.

Meeting Schedule for 2018

March 2nd
April 5th
May 4th
June 1st
July 6th
Aug 3^r
Sept. 7th
Oct. 5th
Nov. 2nd
Dec. 7th

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 2nd 8:30AM