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**August MEeting Minutes**

**Food Policy Advisory Board**

**Thursday, August 1st, 2019, 8:30AM – 10:00 AM**

**City Hall, Pikes Peak Conference Room**

**107 N. Nevada Ave, CSprings CO, 80903**

8:30AM: Call to Order

8:35AM: Public Comment/Board Member Comment

8:40AM: Current Issues –

1. Compost Brief – Zac/Sean – Quick Summary, how did it go? Any follow up needed?
   1. Sean- Thought it went well. Good response from the council members. Zac will follow up with Wayne Williams in order to try and gain a wider sense of understanding of some of his concerns from the FSA.
   2. Megan- what are the next actionable steps with council? Do we want to start with having the city shift their trash pickup services as being one that offers compost pickup?
      1. Sean- what would be the impact? Does city even have much food to compost?
      2. Megan- It would send a message to the public that the city encourages composting.
      3. Jill- This council should be in better communication with COS Sustainability.
      4. Carly- Bestway was just bought out by Alpine.
      5. Jill- Interest in having the city promote Soil Cycle compost pick up.
      6. Jil- Facilitate the conversation on Chapter 7 (land use), and there are potential avenues for sustainability work therein.
      7. Megan: what are the action items for composting:
         1. Jill- will talk with Sabrina and with County about being more closely related.
         2. Jill- Use the city’s website to promote soil cycle.
2. County reps - Aubrey
   1. Should we try to get another representative from the county to show up for these meetings? Such that we can have both council and county representatives.
3. EPFC Final Report – Recommendations that can be grown into policy ideas.
   1. Food Equity – Financial Access, Emily
      1. Ellen- will check in with Sarah and Natalie about the fees for the CO Farm & Art market.
   2. Food Education – Sean
      1. Megan- Sean did his review last month.
      2. Felt that the most actionable was promoting the city website to disseminate information.
   3. Food Production – Ellen
      1. Westside community center garden has been able to get perennial plants approved to be planted along the perimeter of the fence to create a food forest. Wondering if they know something around how to get this done on our end.
      2. Sean- what’s thje chain of command. Can we be connecting directly with groups like Parks & Recs, or are we not allowed to do that?
         1. Megan- we should first address Chapter 7 land use issues.
         2. Jill - also can address the Parks master plan.
      3. Ellen- there’s another person that has interest in being a part of the council.
      4. Ellen- The problem is that there is no regulation of what a farmers market is defined by.
         1. Megan- what would it take for us to advise city council to support a farmers market.
         2. Sean- how are other city councils supporting farmers markets?
      5. Ellen- Another option would be for the city to provide a lunch credit to employees to purchase food at the farmers market. How to encourage city staff to patronize CFAM.
      6. Aubrey-
         1. There’s nothing that says CSFR can’t send an email to District 11.
         2. Before Megan meets with Superattendent Thomas, she will draft up a letter, send it to Jill, and then meet with him to talk abotu local food sourcing.
   4. Local Marketing/Distribution – Megan
      1. Putting together a comprehensive food systems plan over the next five years. To hand that to the mayor and have it endorsed by the mayor, city council commissioners.
   5. Role clarity notes:
      1. Aubrey- the FPAB should focus on priorities and specific partners.
4. Emily was a no show for the second time
   1. Megan- review the rules.

FPAB interested in healthy corner store initiatives – Where can we go from here?

* Not Discussed

Rescheduling:

* Current time does not work for Megan: Thursday/Friday doesnt work.
* Carly will send out doodle poll for rescheduling.

10:07AM: Adjournment – Next Meeting: September 5th, 2019

*“In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the City of Colorado Springs will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or reasonable accommodation to participate in this program should make the request as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event”.*

**WORKING GROUPS:**

***Urban Agriculture (Backyard Farming and Land Use:***

DEFINE: The urban farm and homesteading group will focus on defending and expanding the rights of homesteaders in this city through policy identification and policy change.

***Food Literacy:* Sean**

DEFINE: The literacy group focuses mainly on education. They promote nutrition, local food, and cooking skills through celebratory event and educational campaigns.

***Rural Policy:***

DEFINE: The rural policy group is the main advocate for rural farmers and bridges the physical distance between rural and urban in order to promote the benefits of rural production in our city.

-Identifies the benefits of rural farming to our city, bridging the physical and communication barrier between rural farmers and urbanites.

-Connects with rural farmers to learn about policy challenges and barriers they are facing.

***Community Retail/Economic Growth:* Emily**

DEFINE: The community retail group focuses on promoting and enabling local procurement in our city.

-Identifies policy, bureaucratic, and educational barriers that inhibit retail of local foods from the perspective of restauranteers, farmer's markets, local grocery stores, etc.

-Researches procurement in other cities to develop a guiding model for our city.

***Communication/Media:***

DEFINE: The communication/media group works with all other subcommittees to help keep FPAB and the initiatives in city and county radar.

-Keeps up steady communication with other subcommittees about the current projects and work that is being done.

**Policy Brief:** Purpose - A policy brief presents a concise summary of information that can help readers understand, and likely make decisions about, government policies. Policy briefs may give objective summaries of relevant research, suggest possible policy options, or go even further and argue for particular courses of action.

**Policy Brief: Format –**

* **Title:** A good title quickly communicates the contents of the brief in a memorable way.
* **Executive Summary:** This section is often one to two paragraphs long; it includes an overview of the problem and the proposed policy action.
* **Context or Scope of Problem:** This section communicates the importance of the problem and aims to convince the reader of the necessity of policy action.
* **Policy Alternatives:** This section discusses the current policy approach and explains proposed options. It should be fair and accurate while convincing the reader why the policy action proposed in the brief is the most desirable.
* **Policy Recommendations:** This section contains the most detailed explanation of the concrete steps to be taken to address the policy issue.
* **Appendices:** If some readers might need further support in order to accept your argument but doing so in the brief itself might derail the conversation for other readers, you might include the extra information in an appendix.
* **Consulted or Recommended Sources:** These should be reliable sources that you have used throughout your brief to guide your policy discussion and recommendationsErika- City Council work sessions-  <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Megan- City Council meetings- <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Sean- El Paso County Commissioner activity <http://74.208.113.192:8080/ams/elpaso>

Beth- Parks projects and initiatives/ upcoming master planning activities etc.

Zac – Planning Commission - <https://coloradosprings.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

**Possible Future Briefs:**

Enhancing local food production

Award’s farmers markets

**Next Policy Briefs:** zoning codes in residential areas

**Don’t Forget!**

Finalize FPAB Single Page Handout

Pollinators: Next steps could be recommending a process for tracking hives and what contracts could be revised with pesticide