

Colorado Springs Food Policy Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2017; 8:30am – 10:30AM
704 E. Boulder, 80903

Mission:

Foster a healthy and resilient local food system that contributes to economic vitality, healthy food access and environmental sustainability in Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

In Attendance: Sabrina Cotta, Bryce Larson, Clarissa Dominguez, Johnathan Shankland, Karen Maus, Brenda Thompson, Ellen Johnson-Fay, Joanna Zaremba, Erica Liljestrand, David Geislinger

Updates:

Social Media

Clarissa is doing it alone this month. Everyone should help out when they can.
Clarissa gave Jill and Sabrina access to Facebook.

Mission Trace Shopping Center – Sierra High School Meeting/RISE & El Pomar Lunch

Megan went for a luncheon for RISE (Resilient Inspired Strong Engaged) and El Pomar. They received a \$50,000 grant to do investigative work in the City of Colorado Springs and building a stronger community. Local food and nutrition came up a lot. Livewell is the initiator of the project. Example, they're creating a satellite WIC and Peak Vista station to make access better for citizens.

Broadmoor Farm Tour

Broadmoor Farm Tour for board members and citizens was Tuesday. Sabrina thinks we have opportunity to ask key questions at these type of events. Clarissa said the recognition program could help out and be positive. Sabrina suggests we work with the Chamber to promote those businesses that use local food. Johnathan brought up the driver, perhaps maintaining a 5-diamond, 5-star resort is driving their farm operation. Joanna suggested the Local Food Recognition program could be an incentive for the Broadmoor and others. Ellen brought up composting as a possibility for an issue to bring up at the Food Shed Forum.

Local Food Recognition Program

Megan suggested there is some financial incentive to participate in a recognition program. Johnathan said that the local food recognition program could get restaurants in front of different people. We could use the city website, etc. you get additional marketing. Local Food App has codes to rate restaurants, which are little confusing. Sabrina suggested we have different levels. Clarissa suggested we work with the Local Food App as we develop it. Bryce went over her research she conducted about other types of recognition programs.

The group outlined the following areas that could be highlighted in our recognition program:

- composting
- recycling
- water conservation
- energy conservation

Johnathan will start working research for a possible partnership with the Local Food App. Megan suggested working on a questionnaire as our next step we should take. We agreed as a board to make the Local Food Recognition Program our next project. Megan suggested we consider diversity in varieties of fruits and vegetables as well. Sabrina said that the City Clerk licenses different entities, then perhaps the City Clerk could give a discount on fees for businesses who participate. But, the Chamber, City presence may be a more effective approach.

LiveWell Public Policy Tour

Johnathan, Clarissa, and Joanna attended. They went over the current policy. The Food Policy Advisory Council/Farm to School Task Force (HB1192) didn't pass, but they're hoping to get it to pass later. It would staff their program, which would help move things forward. They're also trying to get state to contribute money to SNAP, so we can get federal matching dollars. They're also working on a bill to work on tax credits for farmers inheriting land keeping land as well as improving the tax situation for those that are trying to acquire new farm land. Johnathan, Clarissa, and Joanna as well as other groups shared what we are currently working on with Livewell. Joanna will invite Grace Houser, MD from Children's Hospital to attend one of our meetings.

Megan will add policy updates to the agenda each time. Joanna suggested maybe we could have volunteers help us with reporting back from webinars and giving policy updates at meetings. Johnathan suggested we work with council to communicate at the state level about important policy issues.

Downtown Partnership Meetings

Johnathan attended their last meeting and learned about their master plan for downtown. They had some healthy lifestyle language, but they didn't have any specific local food language. There might be an opportunity to add specific local food language.

Pikes Peak Environmental Forum – Friday, October 27th

12-2 pm at the Margarita at Pine Creek. Joanna, Johnathan, and Megan will attend and will coordinate beforehand. Will arrive about 11:45 am.

PlanCOS

Sabrina submitted our proposal to the planning department, who has sent this info to the consultants who are working on it. There's a steering committee, technical staff committee, and consultants. Sabrina is on the technical staff committee. Three chapters came out before our language was submitted. She found that Chapter 2 Vibrant Neighborhoods already has some of our language there even though it came out before we had

submitted our proposal because of citizen feedback. Chapter 3 Unique Urban Places talks about water conservation, compost, and xeriscaping, zero waste. Sabrina said there will be public comment in the future where we can also give input.

Food Shed Forum

2015 was the last one, where a group met and came up with a strategic plan for local food. The main goal was to divide the city into villages and then have food ambassadors work together and support local food in their village. Ellen said it was an unattainable goal, and only the west side local food ambassadors are the only ones still working. Ellen suggests that the goal be urban farms. There may be a Food Shed Forum in February 2018. Sean and Nanna are working on finding a date. Megan suggested we make the focus of the forum the five goals of the Food Policy Advisory Board. Ellen mentioned the Lexicon of Sustainability Videos that her westside group is hosting in the community. They are also going to build gardening classes. Megan will send Megan the strategic plan to see if it fits for the Food Shed Forum. Sabrina said she's happy to come and help.

David said he just came from the Workforce meeting, and the Olympic City Campaign just presented and they have a tag line "Eat like an Olympian."

Administrative Issues

Clarissa and Nanna are reappointed for a new 3-year term.

Sophie has been appointed as a full voting member.

Lyn Harwell has resigned.

Megan will continue as chair.

Currently one voting member vacancy, and we will advertise for 30 days. Sabrina said we can appoint up to two alternate members, who would be non-voting members. We should all put it out to people we think might be a good additions.

Megan would like to have an open line of communication between all the schools instead of having one set non-voting board position.

Sabrina will send out our board's rules and procedures to the group.

Skip January meeting.

PPCC Update

Brenda said they are working on a living wall at PPCC, but there have been some setbacks. Brenda said they would like to do solar hydraulic trailers that would point the solar panels toward the sun. They're the only community college in the state with a program for sustainability. She talked about the trades programs working to build the trailers and potentially power the kitchens.

Future Business/Meeting Details

Joanna suggested that we think about connecting with our elected officials now that we have more concrete work ahead of us.

The group discussed the public market and found out the new name is Pikes Peak Market, and it will be located at 9 S. Weber St.

November 3rd we will do a breakfast meeting potluck. Bring something to share.

The following meeting will be Dec. 1st.

NEXT MEETING:

November 3rd, 8:30AM – 10:30AM

Terms:

Clarissa Aug 11, 2015- Aug 11, 2017 – Reappointed for 3 years.

Nanna Meyer Aug 11 2015- Aug 11, 2017 – Reappointed for 3 years.

Lyn Harwell Aug 11 2015- Aug 11, 2018 - Resigned

Megan Andreozzi Aug 11, 2015 to Aug 11, 2018 – Would someone else like to take Chair position?

Joanna Zaremba Nov 8, 2016 – Nov 8, 2019

Johnathan Shankland Nov 8 2016- Nov 8, 2019

Sophie Javna is currently a non-voting student rep – Need to appoint her to voting position, was this taken care of at Council meeting in late September

1 Vacancy

ON GOING ITEMS:

Schedule of events for presenting/introducing our board:

Downtown Partnership Membership Meeting

Pikes Peak Environmental Forum – October (last Friday of the month)

Closing Food Assessment – Food and Wine Dinner (CC/Helen Hunt/Antlers)

- Fact sheets:
 - Procurement - Lyn
 - Farm to Institution-Nanna
 - Backyard Gardening-Clarissa
 - Fair Food-Sophie

- Food Literacy-Nanna
- Farm/Rancher-tabled it for now
- Local Food/CSA - Nanna
- El Paso County Food Systems Assessment - How can we help, if at all?
- Seeds – Keep this in the conversation!
- City Median – Sponsored by FPAB
- Olympic Training Center
- Meetings set with County Commissioners/City Council Members
- Beehive Ordinance
- How can we place "local food" in the city plans for next year? Tie them to transportation?
 - Food sovereignty - How are our goals aligned with the rest of Colorado initiatives?
 - Quarterly network calls - LiveWell Food Policy Network (discuss and divide)
 - Closing Food Assessment – Local food wine dinner
 - Survey Questions – Sent to Food System Assessment with these added questions:
 - What is your form of transportation?
 - Where is your local grocery store that you shop? How far of distance from your home?
 - What is your neighborhood?
- Social Media Schedule: ONCE a week, monthly groups decide who does instagram/facebook
 - October - Clarissa/Sophie
 - November - Joanna/Lyn
 - December - Megan/Nanna

Urban Agriculture 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.

- Subcommittee will work with Media group to connect/communicate with urban farmers and homesteaders to receive feedback/suggestions for policy change
- Promotes urban farm and homesteading events and info on the website, facebook page, and through other promotional materials.
- Develop urban homesteading/farming comprehensive plan for 2017-2018

Food Literacy

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

- Works with schools to promote food literacy in classrooms
- Plans events that promote nutrition, local food, and cooking education
- Develop city literacy comprehensive plan for 2017-2018

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.
- Working with Media subcommittee, spreads awareness of these issues and promotes resources/knowledge of rural farming through facebook, website, and other promotional materials.
- Works with rural farmers to develop a comprehensive rural farming plan for 2017-2018

Backyard Farming

Community Retail/Economic Growth

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 restaurateurs, farmer's markets, local grocery stores, etc.
- Researches procurement in other cities to develop a guiding model for our city.
- Develops a comprehensive community retail plan for 2017-2018.

Communication/Media

DEFINE: The communication/media group works with all other subcommittees to develop promotional material for the FPAB and our initiatives.

- Keeps up steady communication with other subcommittees to develop and deliver promotional materials.
- Regularly updates website and facebook page, and makes recommendations for changes.
- Works to promote FPAB events and spread knowledge of group through social media, poster campaigns, and local newspaper postings/articles.

