



**MINUTES**  
**Food Policy Advisory Board**  
**Thursday, August 2nd, 2018, 8:30AM – 10:30 AM**  
**Sustainacenter -**  
**704 E Boulder St, Colorado Springs**  
**CO, 80903**

8:30AM: Call to Order

- Individuals present: Megan Harris, Sean Svette, Beth Anderson, Julie Slivka, Zac Chapman, Erika Liljestrand, Sabrina Cotta, Aubrey Day

8:35AM: Public Comment/Board Member Comment  
*Introduction of board members and presenters*

8:45AM: Public Edible Landscapes/Current Spraying of parks and open spaces:  
*Presenter*

*Parks and Recs – What is our current status of pesticide use?*

- Parks uses an integrated approach to weed control for turf development that is a combinations of mowing practices, aeration, watering and use of a board leaf herbicide when necessary.
- Herbicides are applied by contractors who are licensed through the state
- Contractors are required to spray what is approved by the Parks department, their use of signage is required. What is on the signage is regulated by the state. Parks has actions it can take if a contractor is not compliant with the signage requirements.
- Chemicals are used on spot applications.
- Parks is working on a website to notify the public of spraying ahead of time.
- Community can report concerns with signage or spraying through the Colorado Springs website.

*Parks and Recs - Water usage*

- Parks has a water conservation program to replace high water need turf with more drought tolerant turf.
- They have timers and technology to determine exactly the amount of water each area of turf needs and to monitor water loss.

- Parks is open to collaboration with the FPAB and will provide information on the cost per acre of maintaining turf; cost of water, seed, chemicals, fertilizer and human resources. FPAB to compare with cost of maintaining edible landscapes.

*Presenter*

*Nicole Rosa – Current work that has been done on spraying*

- Reviewed signage state restrictions and requirements, reminded that concerns can be reported through the Colorado Springs City Government website.

*Presenter*

*Julie/Sabrina – Edible landscape conversation with parks and recs*

- Recommendation brought to the group to focus on Fruiting bushes or other edibles and not on fruit trees because of concerns of upkeep, disease and vandalism. Perhaps FPAB can work with existing community gardens to add edibles near them.
- Suggestion to start trial edible landscape in the Meadows Community Garden based on their interest in the project and existing infrastructure
- A date and time for a site visit to Meadows Community Center will be scheduled for the FPAB members.

*Presenter*

*Becky Elder (Blue Planet Earthscapes) – Permaculture perspective on what we need to do to create edible landscapes.*

- Presentation on creating a more holistic approach to edible landscapes through integration of permaculture practices.

10:20AM: Final Public Comment/Board Member Comments

- Action Items assigned/reviewed
- Update from Pikes Peak Urban Garden about their shift in focus to integrate community more into their gardens. Expressed interest in collaborating with FPAB.
- Suggestion to look into Victory Gardens, there is one running on the West side of town
- Suggestion to seek out a parks board champion
- Reminder that the Green Cities Local Food Coalition is willing to be involved with FPAB activities
- Colorado Springs Food Rescue has started Soil Cycle, a composting collection program.

10:30AM: Adjournment – Next Meeting: Thursday, September 6th, 2018 (8:30AM)