



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Food Council

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

5:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Meeting: See top of agenda for
instructions on how to join the webinar or call in by
phone.

A. Call To Order

Present 8 - DONALE RICHARDS, Supervisor MICHELE RITT, SHEENA TESCH, BILL WARNER, MARCIA CATON CAMPBELL, DANIEL CORNELIUS, SHIRLEY NENNIG, and ABHA THAKKAR

OTHERS PRESENT: Jess Guffey Calkins, Theola Carter

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#)
[MIN-431](#)

MINUTES 10.20.2021

Attachments: [DC FOOD COUNCIL MINUTES 20.OCT.2021](#)

A motion was made by CATON CAMPBELL, seconded by TESCH, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 6-0 -Abstain: THAKKAR, RITT..

C. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

D. Presentations

*Dane County Office of Equity & Inclusion staff
Theola Carter shared background and details about PIE Food Project grants and PIE-RESJ (racial equity and social justice) grants. Questions were asked about PIE grants, and also about additional ways to address food equity through OEI-DCFC partnerships. Theola also shared information about the other OEI programs that she and other OEI staff coordinate.*

E. Reports to Committee

Work Group Reports

1. Food Access, Relief & Economic Support – Richards

Group has been doing a deep dive on examining SEED & PIE grant processes. Drafting formal recommendations to four main areas of the grant process – general, application process, reviewers and grading, and evaluation. There are some ideas that could be adopted in this year's grant cycle; others that would need a longer timeline to implement.

2. Food Plan – Caton Campbell

A \$40K covid look back study amendment was included in the 2022 budget that the County Board passed. The budget has gone to the County Executive. When the budget is finalized, the Food Plan work group will work on developing the RFP.

The USDA Regional Food System Partnership (RFSP) awards have not yet been announced.

Next Food Plan work group meeting is Wednesday, Dec 1, 3-4pm, zoom.

3. Regional Agriculture & Food Sovereignty - Tesch

The group has been primarily focused on looking at City of Madison ag leases, and preparing a policy memo regarding ag lease recommendations and language recommendations. Preparing a document for DCFC and MFPC to review at the 12/15 joint food council meeting.

Staff Reports

City of Madison – George Reistad via Jess Guffey Calkins

Madison Public Market

1. U.S. Economic Development Administration grant -- still waiting for a decision as the grant winds its way through their construction, environmental, and legal teams for review

a. Working closely with admin and construction lead staff to address questions as they come up on the application

2. Submitting a \$4m State of WI Department of Administration Neighborhood Investment Fund grant for the public market; due Thurs 11/11

HRAP (Healthy Retail Access Program) Evaluation Project

3. Continuing to meet as a core team weekly and conduct data analyses as a group

4. Research assistant conducted in store surveys at both Lunas and Madison Oriental Market

Mayors for a Guaranteed Income

1. City Staff Core Team continues to meet weekly

a. Project is progressing; on the cusp of hiring a program manager and local research fellow through UW-Madison Institute for Research on Poverty

b. Foundational agreements required to move forward with hire are almost finalized

2. Task Force Core team also meets weekly

a. Advisory Task Force continues to meet monthly and provide input on research domains, hiring preferences/requirements, and program implementation strategies

Truman Olson (S Park Street)

1. Continuing to work on securing a grocery for the space; negotiations are progressing and looking positive, but no public announcement at this point

2. Submitting a \$3m State of WI Department of Administration Neighborhood Investment Fund grant for the Truman Olson grocery store; due Thurs 11/11

Public Health Madison & Dane County – Nick Heckman via Jess Guffey Calkins

1. PHMDC has begun the rollout of pediatric vaccinations for ages 5-11 at the Alliant Energy Center site. Vaccine appointments can be made online. Pharmacies and healthcare partners are also beginning to take appointments. Booster shots are ongoing for eligible populations. COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are currently stable.

Dane County – Jess Guffey Calkins

1. Extension is accepting applications for a Regional Dairy Educator position that covers Dane, Dodge, Jefferson, and Rock counties and across the state. Please spread the word: application information is here:

<https://jobs.hr.wisc.edu/en-us/job/511155/regional-dairy-educator-dane-dodge-jefferson-and-rock-counties>.

Regular Business Reports

1. *Community Gardens – Nicholas Leete via Jess Guffey Calkins*

Community Gardens: Hmong gardeners in McFarland, after losing 3 acres of land to the new community park in McFarland, will be able to continue growing for at least 5 years, on land leased by Rooted WI, Inc. from the McFarland school district starting in 2022. It is a 9 acre plot, so the land will also provide additional growing space for other vegetable growers beyond those displaced from their former location. Rooted continues to explore other options on the county scale for mid-scale vegetable gardeners.

Within Madison, Rooted community garden staff are also looking at options for gardeners from two gardens being disrupted by neighborhood development near the capitol - Crowley Station Community Garden and Triangle community garden. Beyond this, community gardens are tying up loose ends of garden cleanup, water system winterization, and final crop harvests.

Double Dollars Program –Alma Horlock and Kirsten Moore via Jess Guffey Calkins

1. *Community Action Coalition of South Central Wisconsin (CACSCW) –*

Double Dollars program performance numbers for June 1 – Oct 31 2021 at farmers' markets, excluding redemption totals as final redemptions run through December.

Program history supports a rate of redemption above 95% year-over-year. Anyone who would like to receive the 2021 year-end report can email Alma at almah@cacscw.org.

2,075 – total customers (980 new customers; 754 returning; 341 unidentified/anonymous)

4,317 – total transactions.

EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) distributed - \$113, 365

Double Dollars distributed - \$90, 838

Willy Street Co-op -

1. *In the first month of Double Dollars at the Co-op, both issuance and distribution were up over 70% from past averages. Part of this can be accounted for due to three Tuesdays of issuance in that fiscal period instead of two as has happened in the past. That said, average weekly issuance has been up 55% over past averages, so the numbers are still high right out the gate. This is suspected to be due to the continued increase in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits usage since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic.*

2. *During the Co-op's Fiscal Quarter 1 (July-September), contributions to the Double Dollars Fund from the Co-op were up overall 10% over past averages.*

Values, Race, and Power Community of Practice – Abha Thakkar

1. *The Community of Practice group has had two introductory sessions; excited to share more out as the process continues.*

DCFC Strategic Plan

1. DCFC members held a discussion about the DCFC draft strategic plan that was developed in 2019/2020 before the pandemic. Progress has been made on several of the objectives, including increased partnership work between the two food councils. There was interest in capturing the work that's occurred, and continuing the discussion on focus areas for DCFC.

DCFC and DCFC-MFPC joint meetings format

1. A short discussion was held. The current plan is to meet jointly with MFPC every other month. DCFC will continue discussions on how best to collaborate and meet with MFPC.

2022 Budget items related to DCFC

1. Food Assessment amendment proposal was included for \$40K. Double Dollars program funding was increased from \$25K to \$37.5K (in the Department of Health Services budget)
2. The Partner Shares CSA line item stayed at \$15K. It received a needed increase from CARES funding in 2020 and 2021. There is still projected to be an elevated need for assistance with CSA subscription costs in 2022.

2022 PIE Food Project grant review committee

1. Not applying for PIE grants; eligible to review: WARNER, NENNIG, THAKKAR, RITT

F. Announcements

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

*December 15, 5:30pm, zoom – joint food council meeting. Will include time-sensitive work team presentations/discussions (from the Regional Ag & Food Sovereignty and Food Access, Relief, & Economic Support work teams).
The January DCFC meeting is scheduled for 1/12/22; alternative dates may be proposed to better accommodate DCFC members' schedules.*

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

A motion was made by CATON CAMPBELL, seconded by RICHARDS, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried 8-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jess Guffey Calkins, pending council approval.