



# 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?*

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Wednesday, March 19, 2025

6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the Lyman  
Anderson building 5201 Fen Oak Dr; Meeting  
Room Moraine (C); attend virtually via Zoom

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#### A. Call To Order

Chair WARNER called the meeting to order at 6:19pm

**Present** 5 - Chair BILL WARNER, Vice Chair SHIRLEY NENNIG, DANIEL CORNELIUS,  
SEBASTIAN HASSELL, and ADDI FAERBER

**Excused** 4 - CARL CHENOWETH, ERICA JANISCH, JAY BROWER, and KERRY MARREN

*Attended by Zoom: CORNELIUS, NENNIG, HASSELL, FAERBER, JANISCH*

*Others Present: Catie DeMets, Jules Reynolds, YGP member Radhika Gupta, Jess  
Guffey Calkins*

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

[2024](#)  
[MIN-525](#)

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025, FOOD COUNCIL MEETING

**Attachments:** [2024 MIN-525](#)

A motion was made by NENNIG, seconded by WARNER, that the Minutes be  
approved. All in favor, motion carries (5-0).

#### C. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

*None*

#### D. Presentation

*Farmland access and rural food system planning – Catie DeMets and Jules Reynolds  
A discussion was held about the information presented.*

*6:30pm JANISCH joined*

**Present** 6 - Chair BILL WARNER, Vice Chair SHIRLEY NENNIG, ERICA JANISCH, DANIEL  
CORNELIUS, SEBASTIAN HASSELL, and ADDI FAERBER

**Excused** 3 - CARL CHENOWETH, JAY BROWER, and KERRY MARREN

## E. Reports to Committee

### *Regular Business Reports*

- *Dane County Food Action Plan – WARNER, Guffey Calkins*

*February 27: Community engagement launch event was well-attended. USDA funding was frozen, but is now reinstated.*

*Consumer survey can be taken and shared: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q27L2CL>.*

- *Wisconsin Food Systems, Inc - CORNELIUS*

*Community Action Coalition's Foodshed Partnership Project: WI Department of Agriculture, Trade, & Consumer Protection (DATCP) is still reimbursing, but DATCP's Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) funding from USDA is paused.*

- *Regional Agriculture & Food Sovereignty; Community Gardens – Nicholas Leete via Guffey Calkins*

*Community Gardens – The Community garden summit, hosted by Extension Dane County and Rooted earlier this month, was a success, with 65 attendees from 28 community gardens, with numerous results including plans for open tours of different community gardens around the county this summer. Registration is also ongoing at most community gardens, most of which are seeing increased demand. Rooted's community gardens team is also working with a few groups who are looking to develop more growing space this and future years. See <https://danegardens.net> for contact and registration information for each garden.*

*Revisions to the City's leases on agricultural land have been made by Staff in the Economic Development Division, following most of the recommendations made by the Regional Ag & Food Sovereignty Work Group in January 2022. The revised lease template will be introduced at multiple committees for recommendations, and will return to the Madison Common Council for action and potential implementation in 2026.*

- *Food Access; Double Dollars Program – Guffey Calkins*

*None*

- *Public Health Madison & Dane County; City of Madison Business Development – Nick Heckman via Guffey Calkins*

*None*

- *Extension/Dane County – Guffey Calkins*

*Additional upcoming educational events are listed on the UW-Madison Extension Dane County website: <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/>.*

### *DCFC Action Plan reports*

- *Policy – Guffey Calkins*

*We are gathering information about park land agriculture usage; will meet again in April.*

- *Food Access and Equity (PIE) - JANISCH*

*Dane County received 34 applications for the 2025 Partners in Equity (PIE) Food Project grants: <https://equity.countyofdane.com/grants/PIE-food>. The total amount requested was over \$126,000. The total funding to be granted is \$40,000.*

- *Community Engagement - WARNER*

*We plan to mobilize people for Food Action Plan engagement sessions. We plan to compile points of contact for Dane County municipalities.*

- Organizational Capacity  
No report

- Food System Resource Recommendations  
No report

## F. Announcements

*Gupta – Youth Governance Program project will be a Sustainability Safari event on Wed, May 28, 9:30-1:30, at the Henry Vilas Zoo. The event will raise awareness of how to be more sustainable, with a focus on elementary school youth.*

*JANISCH – The Wisconsin Local Food Purchase Assistance Program (LFPA), which paid farmers to provide food to local food banks, has been terminated by the USDA. Local Food for Schools (LFS) has also been terminated.  
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2025/03/17/program-that-put-farm-fresh-food-in-wisconsin-pantries-ends/82410562007/>*

## G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

*Next meeting is 4/16/25.*

## H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

*None*

## I. Adjourn

**A motion was made by FAERBER, seconded by HASSELL, that the meeting be adjourned. All in favor, motion carries (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.**

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