



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, June 18, 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

A. Call To Order

Chair WARNER called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

Present 6 - CARL CHENOWETH, Chair BILL WARNER, Vice Chair SHIRLEY NENNIG, ERICA
JANISCH, ADDI FAERBER, and KERRY MARREN

Excused 2 - DANIEL CORNELIUS, and SEBASTIAN HASSELL

Attended by Zoom: NENNIG, JANISCH, MARREN, FAERBER, CORNELIUS

Others Present: YGP member Radhika Gupta, Jess Guffey Calkins

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2025](#)
[MIN-129](#)

MINUTES OF THE MAY 21, 2025, FOOD COUNCIL MEETING

Attachments: [2025 MIN-129](#)

A motion was made by JANISCH, seconded by NENNIG, to approve the minutes.
All in favor, motion carries (6-0).

C. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

D. Reports to Committee

Regular Business Reports

- **Dane County Food Action Plan - Noah Bloedorn via WARNER, Guffey Calkins**

We are currently deep into the **Community Engagement phase** of the Food Action Plan, where gathering your direct input is absolutely critical to shaping a plan that truly reflects our community's needs and visions.

Upcoming Town Hall Events: Your Voice Matters!

We have a key public town hall coming up very soon:

- **When: Wednesday, June 25, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM**
- **Where: UW South Madison Partnership building** (2238 S Park St, Madison, WI 53713)
- **What:** We'll start with a presentation on the "State of the Food System" in Dane County, followed by an open discussion facilitated by Abha Thakkar. This is your chance to share thoughts, discuss critical food system issues, and contribute directly to the plan's development.
- **Why Attend?** This is a fantastic opportunity to have your voice heard and connect with what's happening in our community's food landscape. We've been actively promoting this event, especially in South Madison, to ensure broad participation.

And mark your calendars for another opportunity to engage: July 22, 5:30-7 PM, at Brix Cider in Mt. Horeb (119 S 2nd St, Mt Horeb, WI 53572).

Highlights From Our Community Engagement Efforts So Far:

- **Surveys are Active!** Both our **Consumer Survey** (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q27L2CL>) and dedicated **Farmer Survey** (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HR28CHY>) are live. We're seeing great racial and geographic diversity in responses, reaching folks well beyond central Madison. These surveys will remain open through September to gather as much input as possible.
- **Meet Our Navigators!** Our amazing team of Food Action Plan Navigators, led by Mya Whitson, are out in the community attending multiple events across the county every week. They're making direct connections and ensuring diverse voices are brought to the table and informing the food plan.
- **Community-Led Sessions:** We're thrilled by the positive response from community groups hosting their own engagement sessions, from community-centric engagement led by Project Home in the Allied and Darbo neighborhoods, to stakeholder-centric engagement like Jamie Bugel facilitating focus groups to get farmers' market manager input. We have used up about half of our funding for this community-led engagement and are looking for a second of applicants to continue this work. You can apply for funding here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdRNOOrQXdTUBY-p1qoPuBdCRaSpUthBMNLYJLI8ddxFtXVegw/viewform>.
- **Staying Connected:** Our new bi-weekly newsletter is helping us keep everyone informed on the plan's progress and upcoming opportunities. Subscribe to the newsletter here: <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/community-food-systems/dane-county-food-action-plan/facplan-newsletters/>

Project website: <https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/dane-county-food-action-plan/>.

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

- **Wisconsin Food Systems, Inc - CORNELIUS**

This update was provided later in the meeting than listed.

Foodshed Partnership Project is progressing; warehouse is up and running. An additional USDA grant application is in the works.

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

Regional Ag & Food Sovereignty (RAFS) meetings are on first Wednesdays at 3 PM.

The RAFS group is continuing working on updates to City of Madison agricultural leases, community composting ordinances, and permitting for season extension infrastructure, and are looking into ways to encourage multiple uses for land used for stormwater management.

Community Gardens - This summer, community gardens around the county will be hosting the people from other gardens and the general public at their gardens, to share ideas between gardens and build community. The series will start this Sunday, 6/22, with a cover crop and pollinator workshop at Westport Farm in Waunakee at 1 PM and a workshop on foraging and medicinal plants at Badger Rock Community Garden at 2 PM. More details can be found at <http://www.rootedwi.org>.

- Food Access; Double Dollars Program - Guffey Calkins

Double Dollars will be available at participating Dane County farmers' markets from June 1 - Oct 31.

CORNELIUS JOINED AT 6:12pm.

Present 7 - CARL CHENOWETH, Chair BILL WARNER, Vice Chair SHIRLEY NENNIG, ERICA JANISCH, DANIEL CORNELIUS, ADDI FAERBER, and KERRY MARREN

Excused 1 - SEBASTIAN HASSELL

- **Public Health Madison & Dane County; City of Madison Business Development - Nick Heckman via Guffey Calkins**
None

- **Extension/Dane County - Guffey Calkins**
Workshop: Profitability of Your Mobile Food Business. Saturday, June 21, 2025, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Location: The Urban League Black Business Hub, 2352 S Park St, Madison, WI, 53713. First-come, first-serve, and classroom space is limited, so please register today at https://app.associationsphere.com/Event/EventInfo?prm=Pker8bULFk9fHwY2RKX8MsJITCU5jK9ruUWLS35tJ8eghHCG37f978C7SkV8WAFrkxuSxtFLDgR3VB9Fz6ps-B4vZK4frzvBAXjiUpKF4g0pl7YTxr4TryoIQQpspu48AqwZam6caWSBLqEMQ5OYUk1LBYfF0-J8MjEMCgIKTD44wETPpvZz5BD0Q_tsnWsZxt-u0go2vqNauU45_xlqqcYpO_xi1RF-1KNuS6BCAaI5k5TvEyXjV6wVcHilwf00. This workshop is a collaboration between the Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, UW-Extension Community Food Systems, and Food Finance Institute.

Dane County 2025 Partners in Equity Grants. \$41,345 will be awarded to recipients of the 2025 PIE Food Grant. The twelve 2025 grant recipients are the Allied Food Pantry ARC - Community Services Inc./ARC Outpatient Services, Horizon High School, Lakeview Community School, Marshall Public Schools, Mount Horeb Farmers Market, Native Food Network, Project Home, Inc., REAP Food Group, Sunshine Place, Sustain Dane Inc. and Waunakee Neighborhood Connection. Press release: <https://www.danecounty.gov/PressDetail/11622>

New free, 24/7 Dane County food scrap drop-off sites launched June 1. Four Food Scrap Stop drop-offs will be open for use beginning June 1 including kiosks at: Warner Park and the Henry Vilas Zoo in the City of Madison, the Quarry Skate Park in the City of Middleton, and the Public Works building in Village of McFarland. The Food Scrap Stop located at the Badger Prairie Needs Network in the City of Verona will open by August 1. Residents may also drop off food scraps in the orange collection carts located at the Dane County Landfill during operating hours. Press release: <https://www.danecounty.gov/PressDetail/11621>

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

DCFC Action Plan reports

- **Policy - CHENOWETH**
Info is being gathered to review the Dane County agricultural lease process.

- **Food Access and Equity (PIE) - JANISCH, NENNIG**
A final wrap-up on the 2025 PIE grants was discussed.

- **Community Engagement - WARNER**
Building off of the PIE follow-up discussion at the last DCFC meeting, work is in progress to connect with PIE applicants who asked for additional project support and connections.

- **Organizational Capacity**
No report

- **Food System Resource Recommendations**
No report

Council Discussion

- YGP Project - Radhika Gupta

The YGP Sustainability Safari event at the zoo on Wednesday 5/28 was a big success. There

were about 1,400 participants, including lots of kids.

E. Announcements

CORNELIUS - the gardens at Anderson Farm County Park are doing well and expanding. There are now $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre plots that have been added, and are being allocated. There will be a field day there July 12 - watch for info on this to come from Rooted. They're also working on a possible harvest event there.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting is 7/16/25, 6 PM.

There was a brief discussion on ideas for future presenters at DCFC meetings.

G. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

H. Adjourn

A motion was made by JANISCH, seconded by FAERBER, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carries (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

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