



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, July 16, 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

Vice Chair NENNIG called the meeting to order at 6:25pm

Present 5 - CARL CHENOWETH, Vice Chair SHIRLEY NENNIG, ERICA JANISCH,
SEBASTIAN HASSELL, and ADDI FAERBER

Excused 4 - Chair BILL WARNER, DANIEL CORNELIUS, KERRY MARREN, and RICHELLE
ANDRAE

OTHERS PRESENT: Andrew Hirst, Noah Bloedorn, Lindsey Day Farnsworth, Alder Tag Evers,
Nicholas Leete, Josh Perkins, Hedi Rudd, Matthew Salbego, Devika Suri, Alder Bill Tishler, Nick
Heckman, Rebecca Kemble, Jess Guffey Calkins

ATTENDED BY ZOOM: NENNIG, JANISCH, FAERBER, HASSELL

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2025](#)
[MIN-186](#)

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2025, FOOD COUNCIL MEETING

Attachments: [2025 MIN-186](#)

**Motion by FAERBER to approve minutes, Second by JANISCH. All in favor,
motion carries (5-0).**

C. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

D. Presentation

Foodshed Partnership Project - Andrew Hirst, Community Action Coalition

Presentation

[2025](#)
[PRES-078](#)

FOODSHED PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION - 07-16-2025

Attachments: [2025 PRES-078](#)

E. Reports to Committee

Regular Business Reports

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

We're currently in the midst of our community engagement phase, which wraps up in October. This phase is centered around getting out into the community, familiarizing people with the project, and getting their input into the issues they care the most about as it relates to food. After this phase we will begin Drafting the Food Action Plan and Policy Recommendations, using the input from the community engagement and literature review phases.

Here's a look at what we've been up to, to make sure your voice is heard:

What We've Been Doing:

- **Out in the Community:** We've been hosting lots of informational events, including our project launch, stakeholder meetings, and "State of the Food System" presentations. You might have seen us tabling at dozens of events across Dane County, actively listening and collecting your direct input on the food planning process.
- **Partnering Up:** We've also been distributing funds to community organizations. This helps them run their own engagement activities, ensuring we're reaching diverse groups with culturally-relevant outreach. Some of our partner organizations include Kennedy Heights, Lussier Center, Project Home, Sustain Dane, Dane Buy Local, Dane County Farmers Market, Rooted, Northside Planning Council, and others.
- **Committees in Action:** We've established 4 dedicated committees diving deep into key food system areas:
 - **Edible Landscapes:** Exploring how we can grow more food in our shared spaces.
 - **Commercial Rent Prices:** Tackling the high costs and complexities food entrepreneurs face with commercial spaces.
 - **Workforce Benefits:** Looking at ways to improve conditions and support for food sector workers.
 - **Food Resource Management:** Focusing on reducing food waste and improving how food is recovered and distributed.

Get Involved & Share Your Voice!

Your input is shaping this plan. Here are ways you can still contribute and help spread the word:

- **Visit Our Website:** Learn more about the project::
[<https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/community-food-systems/dane-county-food-action-plan/>](https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/community-food-systems/dane-county-food-action-plan/)
- **Take Our Surveys:**
 - Consumer Survey: [<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q27L2CL>](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q27L2CL)
 - Producer Survey: [<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HR28CHY>](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HR28CHY)
- **Subscribe to the newsletter:**
[<https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/community-food-systems/dane-county-food-action-plan/facplan-newsletters/>](https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/community-food-systems/dane-county-food-action-plan/facplan-newsletters/)

Don't Miss Our Upcoming Events!

We have many more opportunities for you to connect, learn, and share your thoughts. We'd love to see you there!

- **July 22nd | Brix Cider, Mt. Horeb**
 - 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM: State of the Food System Town Hall.
- **August 2nd | Sun Prairie Sustainability Fair**
 - Visit our table at this event!

- **August 5th | The Madison Club**
 - 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM: Dane County Food Collective's State of the Food System Presentation and Town Hall. Happy hour (7:30-8:00 PM) followed by presentation and discussion.
- **August 7th | Parks Alive, Penn Park**
 - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Visit our table!
- **August 11th | Lakeview Library (Northside)**
 - 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM: Northside State of the Food System Presentation & Town Hall.
- **August 12th | Vitruvian Farms**
 - 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM: Future of Farming Panel. Networking followed by a panel discussion with various farmers.
- **September 11th | Mt. Zion Baptist Church**
 - 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM: Faith & Food Summit. Gathering of faith leaders and emergency food providers.
- **September 27th | Yowela Farms (Stoughton)**
 - 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM: Harvest Gathering. Includes a State of the Food System Presentation and Town Hall.

- Wisconsin Food Systems, Inc - CORNELIUS

No report

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

Rooted's community garden team, in the wake of decreased prospects of federal funding, has been making plans for reduced staffing for community gardens next year while looking for additional funding to stave off that possibility.

We are also beginning to make plans for our community garden summit next February or March and are asking for topics from interested gardeners. Ongoing tours and workshops hosted at different community gardens throughout the county can be found at

<https://rootedwi.org/get-involved/events-calendar/>

- Food Access; Double Dollars Program - Guffey Calkins

No report

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

No report

- Extension/Dane County - Guffey Calkins

The USDA SNAP-Ed (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education) program was cut in the federal budget law that passed July 4. This program and funding are a major part of UW-Madison Extension's FoodWise program, which provides nutrition education in schools and community groups for low-income individuals. SNAP-Ed funding will end by Oct 1. Extension leadership is working out the specifics of these significant changes to the FoodWise program.

Upcoming educational events are listed on the UW-Madison Extension Dane County website:

[<https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/>](https://dane.extension.wisc.edu/).

DCFC Action Plan reports

- Policy - CHENOWETH

No report

- Food Access and Equity (PIE) - JANISCH, NENNIG

No report

- Community Engagement - WARNER

No report

- Organizational Capacity

No report

- Food System Resource Recommendations

No report

F. Announcements

None

G. Future Meetings Items and Dates

8/20, 6pm

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

I. Adjourn

A motion was made by CHENOWETH, seconded by JANISCH, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carries (5-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:42pm.

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