



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, December 11, 2019

6:00 PM Lyman Anderson Center, 5201 Fen Oak Dr. Madison, WI

53718

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A. Call To Order

Others Present: Jess Guffey Calkins, Shelbi Jentz

Present 4 - DONALE RICHARDS, Supervisor MICHELE RITT, SHEENA TESCH, and BILL WARNER

Excused 3 - CHRISTINE AMEIGH, CARMELLA GLENN, and KAREN VON HUENE

B. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

C. Consideration of Minutes

[2019](#) FOOD COUNCIL MINUTES 23.OCT.2019

[MIN-293](#)

Attachments: [2019 MIN-293](#)

A motion was made by RICHARDS, seconded by TESCH, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

D. Presentations

Shelbi Jentz, Healthy Kids Collaborative, UW Health – presented on a Dane County food systems mapping project she developed from the Healthy Food for All Children survey.

E. Action Items

None

F. Reports to Committee

—Work team reports

1. Food Waste & Recovery. MICHELE RITT - Hasn't had another meeting yet. The next meeting will be Jan 22, 4:45 pm, at 5201 Fen Oak Drive, Madison WI 53718

2. Urban Ag. Jess Guffey Calkins - This team met on Nov 19. There was a discussion about giving ag land lease preferences to farmers with restorative practices. Jess also explained the Dane County Food Council's discussion and reasoning behind creating a Dane County-focused ag/grower work team in addition to the existing Urban Ag team.

3. Dane County Ag. BILL WARNER - This new work team is working on setting a meeting time.

4. Food Access. Jess Guffey Calkins & SHEENA TESCH - This team met on Dec 11, and had a very productive discussion. A lot of the conversation centered around gathering and compiling data and information about food access needs first – and then using that to inform action ideas. The team will first look at reviewing and updating the data in Nick Heckman's 2016 Hunger & Food Security white paper. Work team staff will connect with public health staff working on the CHA (Community Health Assessment), as well as gather information about other county staff and departments who would be connected to food access issues and may have relevant data. The team will meet at the end of January; date to be determined.

5. Food Entrepreneurship. DONALE RICHARDS

CHRISTINE AMEIGH, DONALE RICHARDS met on Nov 15. They discussed that this team's focus could be in supporting second-year (and beyond) food businesses, since there are already many resources to support start-ups. Ideas for this include: highlighting networking people, connecting businesses regarding sourcing, developing a stronger network to connect food entrepreneurs, working with stores to create specific in-store areas to highlight local products, having training programs (e.g. accounting, bookkeeping, cost saving – buying in bulk), expanded promoting of Something Special from WI products. The work team will meet next on Mon, Jan 6, at 5:30pm, at the AmFam Dream Bank – 821 E. Washington Avenue, Madison WI 53703 and will generally look to meet on the first Mondays at that time & place.

—Madison Food Policy Council – George Reistad, no report

—Public Health Madison/Dane County – Nick Heckman (sent via email)

Public Health's Community Health Assessment is nearing completion, and will soon move on to the Community Health Improvement Plan phase. Other food access efforts in the City and County are moving forward. As the City and County councils jointly heard in August, the terminal market feasibility study has been sharing information about the types of distribution and transportation challenges that are unique to Dane County and how they could be solved. This project now entering a business planning phase and exploring the concept of refrigerated locker boxes. The Double Dollars program is working with Amanda White Consulting to create a fundraising and development plan for program sustainability and future growth. Summer Meals planning is underway for 2020 with REAP Food Group continuing to explore ways to use their food truck to reach more students.

—Extension Dane County – Jess Guffey Calkins

-Community Food Systems Coordinator position will be full-time in April ,Jess Guffey Calkins will go from part- to full-time in this position.

-New Crops & Soils Educator in Dane County Extension: Chelsea Zegler.
Chelsea has experience working with Wisconsin farmers on agricultural conservation issues through research and educational outreach with Extension specialists on campus. Chelsea has a Masters degree in Agroecology and a Bachelor of Science in Biological Aspects of Conservation and a Certificate in Environmental Studies all from UW-Madison.

-Organic Conversion Incentive – still funding left in this program; it will be promoted in the upcoming Extension Happenings e-newsletter, and will also send out on other grower lists.

-2020 Wisconsin Agronomy Update Meeting will be host by Dane County Extension on Tuesday January 7, 2020 at the Comfort Inn in DeForest. Joe Lauer and John Gaska from the UW Department of Agronomy will present the latest information on hybrid/variety performance, an analysis and discussion of last year's growing season, and updated recommendations for field crop production.

-2020 Winter Seminar Series. These are educational sessions that will allow you to improve the quality of service and the profitability of your horticultural business. Four weekly sessions beginning Friday, January 10, 2020; 8:45am-12pm. The cost for all sessions is \$65.00 or you can attend individual sessions for \$20.00 each.

-2020 Organic Vegetable Production Conference – Jan 31-Feb 1, 2020, at Alliant Energy Center, coordinated by Claire Strader, Organic Vegetable Educator at Dane County Extension.

-Garden Summit, Feb 22, 2020, 10-4 –coordinated by the Gardens Network. Community gardens summit.

-School for Urban Ag – short (8 week) course, Jan 21-Mar 10. Farming in the City is offered through both UW-Madison's Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC 075-3) and the Soil Science Department (Soils 375). It is open to community members as well as UW and Short Course students. Taught by Marcia Caton Campbell.

-WI Local Food Network – WI Good Food Vision. Meeting was on Nov 14 in Madison. Developing a statewide good food charter similar to MI & MN.

—Council Discussion -The council will touch base again at the Jan 22 meeting about the work teams' progress in developing goals.

G. Announcements

None

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting – January 22, 2020

February 26 meeting date will be rescheduled due to Ash Wednesday

I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

J. Adjourn

A motion was made by RICHARDS, seconded by TESCH, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

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