



Hamilton

## **Minutes**

### **COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 4:00 p.m.  
Room 264, City Hall**

**Present:** Jean-Anne Bauman, Karen Burson, Dave Carson (chair), Sara Collyer, Vicki Edwards, Melanie Golba, Tabaruk Jahan, Maciej Kowalski, Donna Lee Macdonald, Tina Moffat, Ursula Samuels, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Adam Watson, Greg Witt, Sarah Wakefield

**Absent:** Emma Cubitt, Councillor McHattie, Councillor Johnson, Chris Krucker, Councillor Pasuta, Dr Ninh Tran

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#### **1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Add 6.2 Bring Food Home Conference Panel Presentation

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Sarah Wakefield/Sara Collyer)**

3.1 Minutes of October 2, 2013 were approved as circulated.

#### **4. PRESENTATIONS**

None

#### **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5.1 Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy

<http://sustainontario.com/initiatives/ontario-food-and-nutrition-strategy>

Sustain Ontario invites comments from key stakeholders on the latest version of this draft provincial strategy. Dave reviewed the framework of the current version, and noted that the strategy aligns very well with our proposed food charter principles. Members agreed to send Sustain Ontario a letter supporting the proposed strategy.

## 5.2 Food Charter Consultation

Members reviewed the comments received from city staff on the wording of the proposed charter and agreed to make some wording changes.

**Action:** Vicki will incorporate the changes into the charter and bring the charter back to CFSSC in December for final review.

## 5.3 Planning for a 2014 CFSSC event – goal, scope, budget, target audience, working group

The goal of the event would be to increase awareness of the CFSSC in the community, to launch the food charter and encourage folks to put the principles of a healthy, sustainable and just food system into action. We could invite people to celebrate food and food production with presentations and inspirational messages. We want to attract a wide range of attendees, similar to past CFSSC events (Hammering Out a Food Policy for Hamilton) and to make the event fun, engaging, and celebratory.

**Action:** Karen and Dave will scout our potential speakers. Sarah can solicit student support for writing a grant proposal and event planning.

**Next steps:** Explore potential funding for local food events and select a date (late spring, early June to correspond to local food week, or early fall to align with municipal elections).

## 6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 SPRC staff Sara Mayo and Audrey Naluz obtained funding from the Ministry of Health to work on a Policy to Facilitate and Support Neighbourhood-based Community Food Centres. To kick start a local conversation, they produced a fact sheet on community food centres (CFCs), and are hoping to sponsor an event with Nick Saul (from The Stop in Toronto) to gain momentum here in Hamilton.

**Action:** For background information, Sarah Wakefield will send Sara and Audrey a report produced by the Hamilton Area Food Network a few years ago, along with a copy of an unsuccessful grant application to establish a CFC in Hamilton.

## 6.2 Bring Food Home Conference Panel Presentation

Dave will represent CFSSC on a panel discussion at the Bring Food Home Conference in Windsor on November 19<sup>th</sup>. The topic is how a local food committee can work to influence municipal policy and actions. Members offered the following suggestions for the presentation:

- commitment from the city along with staff support is essential (get the committee council appointed)
- find a champion in your Public Health department
- act as a hub of ideas and a transfer of knowledge
- complete a community assessment to identify local needs
- understand how decisions are made in municipal government, by both city staff and council
- find resources to write reports, create cases for moving forward, develop white papers (potentially university students looking for experience and class assignments)
- post your reports on city website

- start with a smaller (easier) policy to build success in the short term
- don't let lack of a food charter stand in your way
- be proud of what you have accomplished!
- have political timing

Some Hamilton CFSSC successes to share – Community Garden Policy, Farmers' Market Whitepaper, proposed Food Charter, consultations on the Local Food Distribution Initiative, a municipal food strategy, a farmers' market policy, an urban agriculture policy, animal by law for backyard chickens, and neighbourhood development strategy.

Registration is still open for anyone to attend the Bring Food Home conference.

6.3 Ursula proposed that the December meeting include a celebration with time for socializing.

**(Ursula Samuels/ Sara Collyer)**

Passed

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**(Tina Moffat/ Adam Watson)**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.