



Hamilton

Minutes

FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2017, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Room 264, City Hall

71 Main Street West, Hamilton

Present: Luc Peters (Co-Chair), Vijay Jos (Co-Chair), Chris Krucker (Secretary), Nancy Henley, Katherine (Kate) Flynn, Laurie Nielsen, Steve Robinson, Clare Wagner, Bill Wilcox, Sandy Skrzypczyk (Staff Liaison)

Absent with Regrets: Mohamedfat-Hi Aden, Jessica Brand

Guest: Bill Slowka

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Agenda for April 12, 2017 was approved as presented.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Bill Wilcox/Steve Robinson)

Food Advisory Committee Minutes, dated March 8, 2017 were approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. CONSENT ITEMS

None

5. PRESENTATIONS

None

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Staff Liaison Update: Sandy Skrzypczyk, Public Health Services, City of Hamilton provided an update on recruitment for Food Advisory Committee (FAC) members: six new appointees have been chosen by the Selection Committee and a confidential report will be submitted to the Board of Health on April 20th for approval. Once approved, the confidential report goes to Council April 26th to finalize. It is anticipated that the new members will be joining FAC at the next meeting in May.

The MBA students from McMaster completed and presented their term projects focusing on the Food Strategy's priority action 5, in particular the Farm Map. One common theme that emerged from all the projects was that there was a lot of support for local food from the students interviewed (19-26 year old demographic). Nancy and Steve attended the students' presentations. Nancy offered to collate her notes from the presentations and share them with the Committee. Steve noted as well that the students were very engaged in the food map idea. A question from a Committee member arose regarding if the City would consider contracting with existing apps.

City staff will consider the results from the students' projects to help advise them on the map development. Outreach to farmers to garner interest in being involved in the Farm map could potentially start in the fall once the growing/harvesting season is less busy.

Action: Sandy will inquire if the Committee can get copies of the students' final projects.

6.2 Food Strategy Priority Action 5 Subcommittee Update & Discussion: Chris Krucker, subcommittee chair, presented Laurie's excel spread sheet highlighting how the different areas of priority action 5 tie into the Food Strategy. Chris suggested that asset mapping could work well for communicating to Council and to convey what is happening in Hamilton regarding our food system. Themes that are coming out of this subcommittee's work include education, funding, and marketing.

Sandy mentioned that Agri-food Asset Mapping has been undertaken by the Golden Horse Shoe Food and Farming Alliance, and she can inquire about if staff could come and present this information to the Committee.

Action: This subcommittee will meet again April 27th and report back at the next FAC meeting.

6.3 Food Strategy Priority Action 1 Subcommittee Update & Discussion: Kate Flynn, subcommittee chair, shared an overview of this subcommittee's work to date and led the Committee through an interactive session on what to include or exclude in as evaluation criteria to assess community requests outside of the formal granting programs that the City receives for food actions.

Action: Kate will collate the post-it notes and send via email to the Committee members for review to ensure everyone's input is captured and seek agreement on the themes/recommendations. Once completed, this will be passed along to Sandy in time for consideration by the Interdepartmental Food Strategy Steering Team as they draft their Board of Health report.

6.4 Check in Activity, Sandy led an interactive session with the Committee to review the meetings and subcommittee processes. Members were asked to identify what they felt was working well, what was not working well, and what they should start doing at the meetings and with the subcommittees.

Action: Sandy will collate the feedback and review with the Chairs before the next meeting. Feedback results will be presented at the next meeting in May for review and next steps.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

Kate informed the Committee that Mohawk College has a Sustainable Local Foods certificate program within the College's continuing education and online learning department. Also, Honest Field Farms is looking for a field hand for this season – please contact Kate if anyone is interested.

Clare informed the Committee that Neighbour 2 Neighbour will be posting a food service job pending federal funding – please contact Clare if anyone is interested.

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Clare Wagner/Bill Wilcox)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

CARRIED

Next Meeting:

Wednesday May 10, 2017, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

City Hall, Room 264