



Hamilton

Minutes

COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, May 2, 2012, 4:00 p.m.
Room 264, City Hall**

Present: Sarah Wakefield (chair), Karen Burson, Dave Carson, Sara Collyer, Vicki Edwards, Melanie Golba, Tabaruk Jahan, Councillor McHattie, Maciej Kowalski, Chris Krucker, Susan Harding-Cruz (for Richard MacDonald), Tina Moffat, Councillor Pasuta, Ursula Samuels, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Sapphire Singh, Adam Watson (for Anne Winning)

Absent with Regrets: Emma Cubitt, Councillor Johnson, Dr. Ninh Tran

Guests: Yui Hashimoto, Sara Mayo, Sandy Skrzypczyk, Amber Hildebrandt

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, April 4, 2012 (Dave Carson/Tabaruk Jahan)

3.1 Minutes dated April 4, 2012 were approved as circulated.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Yui Hashimoto gave a Power Point presentation on her thesis research - Understanding food insecurity for lone mothers in Hamilton, Ontario (presentation is attached). She provided a deeper understanding of the everyday experiences of food insecurity for lone mothers, the need for structural change around food systems, and concluded that food is about inclusion on many scales.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Healthy Communities – Sara Mayo from the Social Planning and Research Council (SPRC) gave a report on the preliminary results of a Hamilton food shopping survey. 500 people responded to questions about where they shopped,

how they traveled to food stores and markets, and their perceived access to healthy food choices. The final report, when completed, will be shared with committee members.

SPRC is also facilitating the investigation of different models for a school produce market with a few interested schools. Possible options include a preorder system, a good food box, a volunteer run market with produce from a local farmer, or a reseller from the food terminal. Members suggested that a buying group at a school might be an empowered model to consider, or perhaps a Good Food Market (Toronto FoodShare model) might work.

SPRC would like to know if there is interest in compiling the Hamilton research on increasing physical access to food from different sources into a comprehensive report.

Committee members suggested an event with several presenters.

Action: Sarah will contact the inner city health group at McMaster to explore this approach.

Posting the research findings and reports on the www.hamilton.ca/foodsecurity web pages would make them accessible for everybody.

Action: Members can forward final copies to Liz Shaver-Heeney for posting.

5.2 Group updates

5.2.1 Food Charter <http://hamiltonfoodcharter.wordpress.com/>

The sub-committee will be meeting tomorrow to incorporate the comments from the website into the final version, and to develop a plan to solicit wider support for the charter.

5.2.2 Education and Outreach – members are encouraged to take the CFSSC display to events they are attending, and to evaluate the approach and report back on any discussion generated. Tabaruk has booked it out for two events in May, and Maciej has requested it for June 9.

Sapphire requested some tracking information on the web page to inform its effectiveness, and the education committee will be developing a proposal for rolling out a social media campaign with support from the Communications Officer in Public Health Services. Liz will receive training in social media in May and will connect with Sapphire.

5.2.3 Farmers' Markets – Sarah provided an update on the CFSSC April 26th meeting with the Hamilton Farmers' Market managers. Representatives from all of the City's markets attended, and an open and free discussion of the White Paper recommendations took place. The draft meeting notes were shared with members and included identified concerns, recommendations and actions. Going forward, CFSSC will continue to provide support to some of the action items, and liaise with market managers. Councillor Mc Hattie formally thanked Sarah for her leadership on this initiative. Donna Lee MacDonald is the new manager of the Hamilton Farmers' Market (Downtown).

5.2.4 Community gardens - The community garden coordinator position has funding until December when another application to Trillium will be submitted. Adam Watson reported on Public Work's clearing, tilling and compost delivery schedule for May for community gardens. Gardens can submit requests as early as possible for assistance and Adam will work with staff and contractors to meet their needs.

5.2.5 Agri-food business – There are no active items under this category, but CFSSC anticipates that there may be a future role in supporting food businesses such as preserving kitchen on a farm, or establishing a food incubator in the city. Sandy Skrzypczyk will be exploring issues around the potential for social enterprise with value added food, and offered to be a support person. Karen Burson is planning a visit for potential food entrepreneurs to Toronto Food Share and the Stop in May or June.

5.2.6 Student nutrition - deferred

5.2.7 Food Mapping – Sandy reported that the data base has gone to GIS for mapping. Once mapped, an analysis will be completed and linked to the SPRC shopping survey to compare perception with reality.

5.2.8 Food Hub Development - Sarah has engaged a research assistant to facilitate having the group move forward as a food hub or a food network. Let Sarah know if you want to be involved.

5.3 Proposal to host the Bring Food Home Conference 2013. Karen is submitting an application to Sustain Ontario to host the conference in 2013.

Motion: Ursula moved and Tina seconded that the CFSSC support the application, and be listed on the application as a partner. Passed

5.4 Hamilton's Agricultural Self-Sufficiency Assessment –

Action: Please review the draft final report and send comments to Sarah by May 25. We would move to endorse the report in June.

5.5 Airport Employment Growth District (AEGD) – a citizen requested that members of the CFSSC send a delegation to OMB to debate loss of farmland. Members felt that they would like to understand the issues better.

Action: Sarah will invite one or two guest speakers to the next meeting to inform members of the issues surrounding the rezoning of farmland.

5.6 Opportunity for the CFSSC to become a signatory to Right to Food in Canada. For more information: <http://foodsecurecanada.org/un-right-food-mission-coming-canada> The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food is undertaking a formal country mission to Canada in May. The themes to be explored align with the principles in our proposed food charter – how to work toward a healthy, sustainable and just food system.

Motion: Tina moved and Sara Collyer seconded that Sarah engage a university student to prepare and forward a submission on behalf of the CFSSC. Passed

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy: A Plan for Healthy Food and Farming
<http://sustainontario.com/initiatives/ontario-food-and-nutrition-strategy>

There is an open call for feedback on the proposed strategy that calls for government and partners to promote and support healthy eating and access to healthful food, improve health and reduce health care costs, and strengthen the economy through a sustainable and environmentally sound food system. One of the recommendations is to fund the development and implementation of municipal and regional food councils to advise on food access and policy development.

Action: Members are to send comments, suggestions and changes to Liz by May 18, when she will compile and submit on behalf of the committee.

6.2 A GIS methodology for Improved-Access Farmers' Market Siting: Hamilton, Ontario Case Study - deferred to June

6.3 Proposed joint meeting of the Food, Shelter and Housing, Emergency Food Strategic Planning Committee and the Community Food Security Stakeholder Committee representatives to come together for a conversation to help support each other.

CFSSC members are open to meeting with the other committees and an open invitation will be extended to all when the date, time and place are confirmed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Adam Watson/Tina Moffat)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

Carried