



Hamilton

Minutes

COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 5, 2012, 4:00 p.m.
Room 264, City Hall

Present: Sarah Wakefield (chair), Jean-Anne Bauman, Karen Burson, Dave Carson, Sara Collyer, Emma Cubitt, Vicki Edwards, Tabaruk Jahan, Susan Harding-Cruz, Councillor Pasuta, Ursula Samuels, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Sapphire Singh, Anne Winning

Absent with Regrets: Melanie Golba, Councillor McHattie, Councillor Johnson, Maciej Kowalski, Chris Krucker, Donna Lee Macdonald, Tina Moffat, Dr. Ninh Tran.

Guest: Crystle Numan

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, June 6, 2012 (Emma Cubitt/Ursula Samuels)

3.1 Minutes dated June 6, 2012 were approved as circulated

4. PRESENTATIONS

Good Food Box – Crystle Numan described the history and growth of the Good Food Box program in Hamilton, reviewed the healthy eating changes reported by recipients, and spoke about potential for expansion. Discussion on future funding ideas and how to make this more program more sustainable ensued.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Group updates

5.1.1 Food Charter (<http://hamiltonfoodcharter.wordpress.com/>): Dave Carson and Sarah Wakefield submitted an Opinion Editorial to the Spectator that was published on August 27.

Printed brochures, a slide presentation, background notes and a short pitch are all available to help members gain support for bringing the Food Charter forward.

Action: Members are encouraged to have their organization sign the letter of support.

5.1.2 Education and Outreach:

Sapphire circulated a signup sheet for borrowing and tracking the display boards.

A facebook page (Friends of CFSSC) has been created to promote committee activities, track where the display will be set up, promote the food charter and generate excitement around what we are doing. The plan is to add one comment a week. Members are asked to comment on the page this month so that it will be ready to launch to the public in October.

Action: Karen and Sapphire to send members the link.

5.1.3 Farmers' Markets – look for a month long celebration in October for the Hamilton Farmers' Market 175th Anniversary.

5.1.4 Community gardens: The coordinating group has not been able to source additional funding for the garden coordinator position. Other community efforts through Neighbour to Neighbour are being made to support this position. It was noted that the position is important to make sure gardeners are using the plots, rather than having them go to weed and become unsightly.

5.1.5 Food Hub Development – Sarah reported on the survey conducted with food access agencies over the summer. There seems to be a need and desire for more connectivity between groups. Learning events, email listserv, a face book page, a monthly newsletter, joint advocacy, and assistance with funding were all identified. The network could fill a role in programming, education and outreach.

5.1.6 Student Nutrition Programs – HPIN is provincially funded and currently coordinates 140 week day sites in the city. Food for kids is another program that provides a backpack of food for children on the weekend. Neighbour to Neighbour is now partnering with the back pack program to include weekend food for adults. Karen reported that her Operation Smoothie Manual has been professionally formatted and will soon be available for school programs.

5.1.7 Agri-Food Business, Enterprise: Karen attended the June Social Enterprise meeting and has details for those interested in upcoming meetings.

5.2 Healthy Communities – defer

5.3 Bring Food Home Conference – Karen reported that although Hamilton was short listed as one of 3 communities to host the event, the conference was awarded to Windsor Essex. She thanked everyone for their enthusiastic support on the proposal, especially the City tourism staff. Sustain Ontario encouraged Hamilton to

apply to host the 2015 conference. Congratulations to Karen and her team on the great effort.

5.4 New CFSSC chair needed – Sarah submitted her intention to step down as co-chair of the committee this fall due to increasing professional workload. She encouraged members to consider putting their names forward to take on the role of co-chair and offered continuing committee support in the role of past chair.

5.5 City of Hamilton Food Strategy

At a meeting of the General Issues Committee, on August 16, 2012, Councillor B. McHattie introduced the following Motion (Item 9.4):

That Public Health Services report back on how a Food Strategy could be developed in consultation with the following departments: Community Services, Public Works and Planning & Economic Development; with a report back to the General Issues Committee before the end of the 2012 year.

CFSSC members welcomed the opportunities this Food Strategy would have for holistic and thoughtful decision making around food. It was noted that Hamilton's Food Charter will provide a vision for a healthy, sustainable and just food system, and that this Food Strategy should work in support of the vision.

- CFSSC has several reports, a white paper, and plans for a revised food continuum to inform the strategy.
- CFSSC members are eager to be involved in both the planning and development of a food strategy.
- It is hoped that the strategy will work throughout the food system continuum without providing funding exclusively at any one point in the system.
- An important message is that food touches all departments and funding for food issues should be pooled for progress.
- The strategy should emphasize human dignity and social justice for example, prioritize policies and projects that provide dignified access to food and disproportionately benefit the most impoverished and marginalised.
- The strategy should result in multiple outcomes to have multiplied impact (prioritize policies and projects that simultaneously achieve multiple goals and/or work at multiple points along the food continuum).

Moved by Dave, and seconded by Sara that a deputation be made by members of the CFSSC at the October BOH meeting to speak to the proposed food strategy and to state that a number of members are looking forward to opportunities to participate. Passed.

Action: Sarah will submit request for deputation status to the October BOH meeting and will solicit member input for the presentation at the October meeting.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Urban Agriculture Summit – Karen attended the intensive 4-day summit and reported on the informative Cuban agriculture presentation. She encouraged all to attend such future events.

6.2 Chef's forum to link producers and chefs – Karen deferred

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Dave Carson/Sara Collyer)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm

Carried