



Hamilton

## Minutes

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

**Wednesday, November 7, 2012, 4:00 p.m.  
Room 264, City Hall**

**Present:** Sarah Wakefield (chair), Karen Burson, Dave Carson, Sara Collyer, Vicki Edwards, Melanie Golba, Susan Harding-Cruz, Maciej Kowalski, Chris Krucker, Ursula Samuels, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Anne Winning

**Absent:** Robert Clackett, Emma Cubitt, Tabaruk Jahan, Councillor McHattie, Councillor Johnson, Tina Moffat, Donna Lee Macdonald, Councillor Pasuta, Dr. Ninh Tran, Sapphire Singh

**Guest** – Lisa Ohberg

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**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, October 3, 2012  
(Dave Carson/Melanie Golba)**

3.1 Minutes dated Oct. 3, 2012 were approved as circulated.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

"Feeding Hamilton: A Self-Sufficiency Assessment" - Lisa Ohberg reported on her research study that set out to determine if Hamilton could grow enough food locally to feed its population. She concluded that Hamilton could not achieve 100% self-sufficiency, but that there is potential for greater self-sufficiency than at present and she suggested some action and policy recommendations to move in this direction.  
[www.hamilton.ca/foodsecurity](http://www.hamilton.ca/foodsecurity)

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

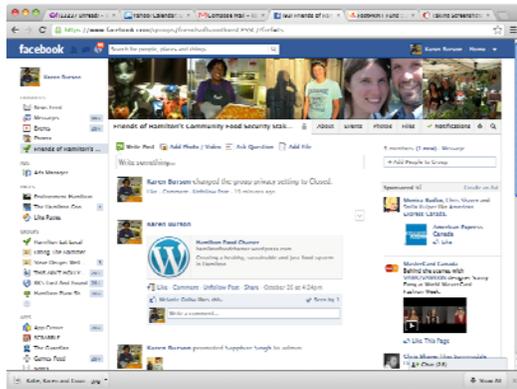
5.1 Food Charter: <http://hamiltonfoodcharter.wordpress.com/>  
Dave reported that his presentation to the October meeting of the Board of Health was well received and generated a number of comments and questions from

Councillors. As a result of his presentation, the Food Charter will be recommended for endorsement and positioned as the vision for a healthy, sustainable and just Hamilton Food System when the food strategy plan is brought forward. A display board with the Food Charter information is now available to members to take to community meetings.

5.2 Education and Outreach – The Facebook page (Friends of CFSSC) is now ready for viewing.

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofhamiltonsCFSSC/fref=ts>

Send Karen any content you would like posted.



The CFSSC display was set up in October at a Climate Change event and left for viewing by the public for almost a week.

The Food Network is lacking a clear lead organization to move the network forward. Participants have chosen to focus energy on a more robust facebook page, more links in the Food Access Guide to volunteer opportunities, links to food related committees, and increased on-line access to policy focused documents. The long term vision is to have enhanced content on the city website similar to that available in York and Peterborough. <http://yrfn.ca/>  
<http://pcchu.peterborough.on.ca/NP/NP-images/food-microsite/food-in-ptbo.html>

Karen shared that Environment Hamilton is interested in partnering with another agency to apply for core funding to develop a food web portal. If someone is interested, contact Karen.

Members noted that the current Food Access Guide is well received in the community and requested that more print copies of a smaller condensed guide be made available. A client handout with community kitchens and community gardens would be useful.

**Action** – Maciej will send Vicki information on a wallet size fold-out that might work.

5.3 New CFSSC chair needed – Dave Carson and Sara Collyer have volunteered to co-chair the committee.

**Motion:** That Dave Carson and Sara Collyer become co-chairs of the CFSSC as of January 2013.

**(Chris Krucker/Karen Burson) Passed**

**Action:** Sarah will prepare an orientation overview of the co-chair role for the new leaders.

Ursula thanked Sarah for her leadership and asked for a cake celebration at the meeting in December to recognize Sarah for her commitment and dedication to the work of the committee. **Passed**

5.5 Food Strategy – CFSSC Members offered the following thoughts on the plan for a food strategy.

- Aim for a comprehensive strategy that includes all city departments to address food from field to fork to waste, and identify concrete action plans that can be executed.
- Use evidence already collected and available – compile research from all city departments to inform the strategy. Much evidence already exists.
- Include Art as part of the strategy because food is both art and part of culture.
- Develop a set of plans with measurable goals and directions on where we want to move, and include recommendations for by-law regulations that impact food.
- Perhaps position the strategy within city manager's office
- Suggest a primary planning team who can draw in community groups for consultation
- Identify food champions/ambassadors from each department to make it work. If staff are appointed, and food is not of interest to them, they won't be engaged. The departmental representatives should have an understanding of what a food strategy could be.
- The lead should be someone with a high profile – a director or manager who can make decisions on the spot, who supports the food charter vision and who will participate in writing the strategy
- Avoid a committee that has to have all decisions vetted through multiple management layers that can distort the final policy and intent.

5.6 Budget requests for 2013 – Karen would like some funding for a Food and Farm Event in February and Sarah proposed a volunteer intern program that could help with research, education and awareness.

## 6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Easy Food Box – The Food Action Planning Group brought a proposal to the October Board of Health meeting for the city to fund an Easy Food Box for single OW recipients. The proposal included a video on Unequal Access to Healthy Food, (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vh0JNPV5kN4&feature=youtu.be>) and Karen spoke to how the Environment Hamilton's Good Food Box program could be modified to meet the needs of these clients (produce that is easy to handle such as cherry tomatoes, green beans, baby carrots, and whole fruit). The pilot program was passed and will be available to 100 clients initially and expanded to serve up to 500 singles over the year.

6.2 Mustard Seed, Hamilton's Cooperative Grocery – A membership launch party will take place on November 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Wentworth Room at the main library. Details of what membership means are available at <http://mustardseed.coop/become-a-member/> .

6.3 Canadian Food Strategy – The Conference Board of Canada is conducting an online consultation at <http://surveys.conferenceboard.ca/s/TheCanadianFoodStrategyOnlineConsultation/> Although the survey takes 20-25 minutes to complete, members are encouraged to add their perspectives to the consultation.

6.4 Ditch – Melanie has been contacted by Joe Miner with concerns about soybeans that are being grown in a contaminated ditch by the airport. The soybeans are being harvested and sold in our food system. Joe is available to come and make a presentation with photos to CFSSC to see if this is something the committee wants to weigh in on.

6.5 Canadian Association of Food Service Professionals – event Jan. 16, 2013 connecting local food producers to industry. All welcome.

6.6 Farmland preservation - EH is co-sponsoring an event with the public library in February on farmland preservation. Send Karen ideas for speakers and topics.

6.7 Dave attended a recent information event in Brant County that raised concern about farm land being purchased by overland syndicates. Perhaps the CFSSC should explore if this type of land transfer is happening in Hamilton, and to what extent?

**7. ADJOURNMENT  
(Dave Carson/Ursula Samuels)**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm

**CARRIED**