



Hamilton

Minutes

COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 3, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

Room 264, City Hall

Present: Dave Carson (co-chair), Sara Collyer (co-chair), Jean-Anne Bauman, Karen Burson, Vicki Edwards, Maciej Kowalski, Ursula Samuels, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Sarah Wakefield, Anne Winning

Absent with Regrets: Emma Cubitt, Tina Moffat, Councillor Pasuta, Sapphire Singh

Absent: Councillor Johnson, Chris Krucker, Melanie Golba, Susan Harding-Cruz, Tabaruk Jahan, Councillor Johnson, Councillor McHattie, Donna Lee Macdonald, Dr. Ninh Tran

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Sarah Wakefield/Dave Carson)

3.1 Minutes of February 6, 2013, and meeting notes of March 6, 2013 were approved as circulated.

4. PRESENTATIONS

None

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Identification of goals for the City Food Strategy.

Vicki presented a summary of Food Strategy goals from six North American cities and asked members for input on goals for Hamilton.

Members felt that Hamilton's goals should reflect the principles outlined in the proposed Food Charter for Hamilton – a healthy food system, a sustainable food system and a just food system.

The following wording was suggested:

Through interdepartmental work, City policies, by-laws, incentives and supports are in place to ensure that Hamilton has

A healthy food system that will:

- Enable the overall health and well-being of Hamiltonians
- Help to reduce the risks of chronic diseases
- Reduce the risk of food-borne illness
- Allow for nutritious and personally acceptable foods in all places where food is available, including home, workplace, school, retail settings, community centres, entertainment complexes etc.

A sustainable food system that will:

- Secure the economic viability of the Hamilton food sector and provide jobs that pay a living wage
- Preserve and protect Hamilton farmland, watersheds, wildlife habitat, and the genetic diversity of food
- Allow for the development of urban agriculture
- Use processes at every stage of the food system that sustain or enhance the natural environment
- Lessen the impact of variations in food supply
- Celebrate food that is grown here

A just food system that will:

- Provide opportunities for all residents to acquire safe, nutritious and personally acceptable food
- Give a voice to people marginalized by the present system
- Appreciate the value of food and farmers
- Support a living wage economy to allow everyone to buy food

5.2 How to increase effectiveness of the CFSSC with current limited staff assignment and budget

The following recommendations were made:

1. Rebrand committee name to the Hamilton Food Policy Council.
(Karen Burson/Sara Collyer) Passed

Action: Executive will draft new Terms of Reference

2. Invite staff from city departments who do not have participating members to attend meetings, or to provide regular update reports on relevant food system work.

Action: Executive will invite staff from Planning and Economic Development, Community Services Income and Employment Support or Housing, and

Neighbourhood Strategy to participate at food policy council meetings, and/or to send an update on food related work.

3. Check with City councillors to explore ways to increase communication (e.g., determine if meeting dates and times are convenient or need to be changed).

Action: The 2013 Co-Chairs will request a meeting with the councillors to provide update on food system work and plans for moving forward.

4. Identify topic areas that could move food policy in Hamilton forward, and engage graduate students to prepare background reports.

Action: Members to bring topic ideas forward to Sarah Wakefield between now and the June meeting.

5. Expand and/or renew membership

Action: Executive will send letter of invitation to stakeholders/sectors not currently represented in the membership (School Boards, chefs, caterers, youth, research council, food retail etc.)

6. Publicize 2012 accomplishments

Action: Dave and Sara to present to a future Board of Health meeting

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 The Greenbelt Fund is embarking on a pilot project that will look at ways to integrate regional food hubs with mainstream foodservice distribution. Notes from the Regional Food System Symposium are available at http://www.ontariofresh.ca/news-resources/resources/business-development-marketing/3710-developing-regional-food-system?utm_source=Metcalf+Foundation&utm_campaign=43bbb7aa5c-my_google_analytics_key&utm_medium=email

6.2 Local Food Act

Karen reported that if passed, the local food act would:

- Increase local food awareness, access and sales by setting local food goals and targets in consultation with stakeholders
- Enable government to work with public sector organizations toward these goals and share information on their progress and results
- Proclaim a "Celebrate Ontario Local Food Week" that would begin the Monday before Thanksgiving
- Require the government to produce a local food report on its activities to support local food

She also provided this link with recommendations from the Canadian Environmental Law Association. <http://www.cela.ca/newsevents/media-release/mr130326>

6.3 Healthy Communities Funding – Social Planning and Research Council is directing current funding to developing a policy for community food centres. They are applying for continuation of the funding through to December and plan to collaborate with the Community Food Centres of Canada.

6.4 Dave attended a Resilience Festival in Guelph; one speaker noted that sustainability requires more shared food processing and storage capacities for community groups and small businesses. This is to fill the gap between growing local and selling local produce.

6.5 Environment Hamilton cancelled the Farmland Preservation Panel Event due to stormy weather in February and is planning to hold it in the fall. They would welcome CFSSC involvement.

6.6 Community garden coordinator position – A Trillium grant has been submitted to fund three years of community garden support, along with a small amount of project funding.

6.7 The student report on urban agriculture will be complete next month. Members would like a presentation of the recommendations at an upcoming meeting.

6.8 Jean-Anne reported that Hamilton Partners in Nutrition is interviewing to hire someone to do farm-to-school work, and building new Student Nutrition programs across Hamilton.

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Sarah Wakefield/Maciej Kowalski)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.