

Vancouver Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 25th, 2006

Present:

Council Members: *Aron Bjornson, Barb Seed, Carole Christopher, *David Van Seters, Spring Gillard, Sue Moen, Karin Schreurs, Herb Barbolet, Susan Kurbis, Graham Riches

Co-Chairs: Carol Ranger, John Van Luven

Staff: Wendy Mendes, Devorah Kahn

* denotes partial attendance

Regrets: Corrine Eisler, Brian Holl, Shefali Raja, Miriam Palacios, Heather Pritchard,

Absent: Stephen Hall

1. Introductions

4 guests introduced themselves to the Council

2. Review of the Agenda - Addition of Agenda Items:

8.1 Invitation to meet with City Planner

8.2 Invitation to participate in WUF event

8.3 Invitation to participate in Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House Event

8.4 Membership in Food Secure Canada

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest - this agenda item to be added to the Agenda Template.

4. Review & Acceptance of the minutes from March 28th, 2006

Minutes accepted as amended.

5. Business Arising:

5.1 *Report back from sub-committees re: next steps*

- Food Charter - committee hopes to present a finished draft next meeting. At June meeting they will try to provide recommendations for "next steps" in taking the Charter forward to City Council. Starting in June, they will seek opportunities to use the charter as a "public engagement tool" and seek opportunities to present the charter at public events such as WUF, Planning Forum, etc.
- Institutional Food Purchasing Policy - proposal that a policy brief be created to encourage endorsement of ethical institutional food purchasing and waste disposal. **Action:** Seven policies have been drafted and the committee will prepare a policy brief, and bring this to FPC council for approval for the May meeting. Draft document to be sent to Devorah by May 15th for circulation.
- Access to Groceries - this committee presently not working on a specific project.
- Waste - the committee has completed a draft report, distributed to waste disposers for feedback. **Action:** Devorah to distribute draft to all FP Council members to review, FPC members to forward comments via e-mail by May 15th to Devorah. Agenda item for May meeting.

- 5.2 Review and follow-up of Action Items from March meeting:
 - 5.3 Steering Committee - volunteers Carole Christopher and Karin Schreurs. Alternates - identification of the number of alternates required. A policy is in place. **Action:** Susan Kurbis, Aron Bjornson, Shefali Raja all indicated a possible need for an Alternate.
 - 5.3.1 Communication Strategies - ad hoc committee report: communicated with Andrew Pask, who does communications for social planning -discussion is in process around using a newsletter template they have developed. Also focusing on development of key messages, and the "container piece". Committee will report back to FP Council next mtg. Devorah encouraged continued contact with city support staff.
- 6. Staff Reports:**
- 6.1 Food Policy Coordinator - consent
 - 6.2 Food System Planner - consent
 - 6.3 VFPC member reports - consent
- 7. Food Policy Council Business:**
- 7.1 Next steps to implementation of (small work group) Small group reporters said they would provide notes: They are Spring, Carol R, Karin S, and David in the order below. I will remind them to send the essence of their report to Devorah.
 - 7.1.1 debate & dialogue - proposing that this activity occur over a meal, every 2 months. Out of this there may or may not be any action, but the content may be used on a fact sheet or assist in choosing award recipients.
 - 7.1.2 educational - initially containment; couple of criteria linked to goals and objectives. Important to be clear around the function of educational presentations.
 - 7.1.3 food entrepreneurs & food awards - while primarily intended for innovative businesses, recommend it be expanded to include others doing outstanding work in food system; journalist, academics, etc. Consider changing our meeting time to allow Media coverage that benefits everyone. Award should be given by City Councillor. (I was in this group and edited the passage.)
 - 7.1.4 developing objectives - identifying appropriate roles for the council, tracking monthly on the Agenda . . .
- 8. Other Business:**
- 8.1 Invitation to meet with Ian Sinclair, Urban Planner Friday, April 28th at 3 pm in the City Planners office - please rsvp with Wendy Mendes
 - 8.2 Invitation from WUF (World Urban Forum) to participate in the International Earth Village Festival with a presentation or Resource table - June 20-25.
 - 8.3 Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House Event - Jocelyn Hamel has organized an event for Saturday, June 3rd on the theme of gardening. Invited FPC to man an Information Booth. **Action:** Carole will forward the information to Jocelyn, that 1 or 2 members will participate.
 - 8.4 Membership, Food Secure Canada - seeking memberships, conference in October, in Vancouver. Membership is \$100 per year. The FPC decided by consensus to join Food Secure Canada. A representative will be needed to communicate with Food Secure Canada and bring information back to the FPC. Barb Seed volunteered.

- 8.5 'Membership' on Food Policy Council **Action:** June Agenda item following the June RRR.

9. Presentation - A Loving Spoonful website: alovingspoonful.org

10. Summary of Actions

Institutional Food Purchasing Policy:

- **Action:** Seven policies have been drafted and the committee will prepare a policy brief, and bring this to FPC council for approval for the May meeting. Draft document to be sent to Devorah by May 15th for circulation.

Waste:

- **Action:** Devorah to distribute draft to all FP Council members to review, FPC members to forward comments via e-mail by May 15th to Devorah. Agenda item for May meeting.

Alternates:

- **Action:** Susan Kurbis, Aron Bjornson, Shefali Raja all indicated a possible need for an Alternate

Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House Food Event:

- **Action:** Carole will forward the information to Jocelyn that 1 or 2 members will participate.

'Membership':

- **Action:** June Agenda item

Educational speakers May/June meetings:

- **Action:** John Van Luven, May 2006; Graham Riches, June 2006

Meeting adjourned @ 9:00 pm