

Vancouver Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 27th, 2006

Present:

Council Members: Barb Seed, Corinne Eisler, Spring Gillard, Sue Moen, Karin Schreurs, Herb Barbolet, Shefali Raja, Aron Bjornson, Heather Pritchard, *Miriam Palacios

Co-Chairs: Carol Ranger & Carole Christopher

Staff: Devorah Kahn, *Wendy Mendes,

* denotes partial attendance

Regrets: Graham Riches, David Van Seters

Absent: Stephen Hall, Susan Kurbis, Peter Ladner

1. Introductions

6 guests introduced themselves to the Council

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

2.1 Consent Agenda

2.2 Regular Agenda

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4. Review & Acceptance of the minutes from May 23rd, 2006

4.1 RE: 6.1.3 - IFPP - There was a question regarding the adequacy of the minute related to IFPP update at May meeting. **Action:** Jenine will prepare a new minute to be substituted for present wording in May minutes.

5. Correspondence:

5.1 Shared Table at Farmers Markets w/Sustainability Group - FPC invited to share a table with the Sustainability Office for July/August events. **Action:** Devorah will send out specific dates Farmers Markets will be held July/August to interested parties with volunteer response requested within 24 hours.

5.2 Request for contribution to Summer Seasonal Update - quarterly edition requiring input from a member - **Action:** Sue Moen and Carole Christopher volunteered a Summer Seasonal Update - Devorah to forward Andrew's contact information.

6. Business Arising:

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

6.1.1 Food Charter - Final draft distributed. City staff member is working on format for presentation boards. Committee wishes to remain involved with Charter process through hoped for adoption. They recommended sending the Food Charter forward to City Council with request for adoption in November 2006. In the meantime, the committee has identified several opportunities (including presentation at the World Urban Festival, on June 24) to present the draft to public groups for feedback and support. City Councillors and key city bureaucrats will be invited to participate in the Food Charter workshop at the Food Security Conference in October. The workshop will feature the Vancouver Food Charter. There was discussion about translating the charter into "plain

language." Question of accessibility of the language of the document can be posed to public workshops and VFPC can revisit the question in the Fall. .

6.1.2 Waste - **Action:** Sue M will follow up with Susan K re: sending proofed version of Waste Report to Devorah who, in turn, will send it to editor.

6.1.3 Institutional Food Purchasing Policy - Executive Summary will be ready for July meeting. **Action:** Aron and Jenine

6.2 Review and follow-up of Action Items from May meeting:

6.2.1 Communication Committee Report - Spring & Aron noted the criticality of timing of media opportunities. They were unable to act quickly enough to the media attention around the VFPC motion to City Council to sponsor 2010 Community Garden plots by 2010. They also stressed the importance of building a good communications strategy, including training VFPC members to speak to the media. They inquired about available funds for a consultant and it was recommended that they develop two or three budget scenarios for the July meeting. **Action:** Aron and Spring will prepare alternative budgets for developing a communications strategy. **Action: Every committee should consider their budget needs to the end of the year and bring a budget request to July meeting so that we can make a reasoned judgment about the budget for a communications strategy.**

6.2.2 Call for new Steering Committee member - Vacancy on the Steering Committee - **Action:** An election for a Steering Committee member to be held at the July meeting.

6.2.3 Update from Membership Committee - *see item 8.1.* Devorah/Spring reported that Spencer Herbert, a Parks Board Member, is interested in joining the FPC - once the Triple R Review is completed.
Remainder of discussion occurred in camera

7. Reports:

7.1 Food Policy Coordinator - consent item - Question: What are the Urban Agriculture Fact Sheets? Series of 6 fact sheets produced by City staff.

7.3 VFPC member reports - Sue and Karin described their presentation at Mt Pleasant Community Centre and noted the need for interactive display materials for such events - (*duly noted by Communications Committee.*) Members were reminded to bring a sheet to gather names and contact information at all such events.

3 - Year Action Plan from Vancouver Coastal Health will be distributed to FPC for feedback (not a public document)

8. Food Policy Council Business:

8.1 Triple R Review Report - City Council hearings focused only a very small amount of time on the recommendations of the report related to Advisory Committees. Most attention went to Code of Conduct City recommended in the report. City Council is continuing to evaluate their response to this document.

8.2 Part 2: Next steps to implementation of (small work group) **Tabled.** (*priority for next meeting*)

- 8.2.1 Debate & Dialogue
- 8.2.2 Educationals
- 8.2.3 Food Entrepreneur & food awards
- 8.3.4 Developing objectives

9. Other Business:

- 9.1 Aron Bjornson - e-mail invitation from Capers will soon arrive announcing a Special Event - Wednesday, July 19th 6 - 9pm.
- 9.2 Devorah has free copies of Cities Farming for the Future on request.
- 9.3 Request that VFPC discuss priorities at July meeting, based on tests and procedures for identifying priorities recommended by Wayne Roberts.
- 9.4 Sustainability by Design presentation, June 29th, 6-9 at the Marriott (Hastings)
- 9.5 Announcement from Herb of a new project - a Buy and Sell Local retail store.
- 9.6 Request (Herb B) for VFPC to review recommendations for the FPC in the Vancouver Food Assessment (FORC) publication. Possible printing budget? Tentatively put on July agenda.
- 9.7 Oxfam Student Food Symposium for Food Security - August 12, 06.
- 9.8 Farm Folk City Folk, The Land Conservancy and Eco Village Network have formed a Collective Farm Community Alliance and have received a gift of \$500,000. Disbursements will be used to assist farming and provide supports.

10. Presentation: Barb Seed, Public Health & Food Security *Tabled*

Summary of Actions

- 5.1 **Action:** Devorah to send out specific dates Farmers Markets will be held July / August to interested parties with volunteer response requested within 24 hours.
- 5.2 **Action:** Sue Moen and Carole Christopher volunteered a Summer Seasonal Update - Devorah to forward Andrew's contact information.
- 6.1.2 Waste - **Action:** Waste Report to be sent to Devorah for the purpose of editing. Sue will contact Susan re: sending final report to Devorah.
- 6.2.2 **Action:** An election for a Steering Committee member to be held at the July meeting. Members are asked to consider their ability to fulfill this position.
- 6.2.3 + 8.1 **Action:** The Membership committee will discuss membership criteria and forward recommendations to the FPC.
- 8.2 Part 2: Next steps to implementation of (small work group) *Tabled. (priority for next meeting)*

Meeting adjourned @ 9:15 pm

