

## Vancouver Food Policy Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 21, 2007

### Present:

**Co-Chairs:** Andrea Reimer, Herb Barbolet

**Council Members:** Janine de la Salle, Susan Kurbis, Chris Miewald, David Tracey, Andre LaRivière, Eva Riccus, Melanie Kurrein, Barbra Joughin\*, Trish Kelly, Kim Sutherland, Yona Sipos, Tara MacDonald, Doug Aason

**Staff:** Samara Brock (Social Planning)

**Liasons:** Peter Ladner\* (City Council Liaison)

**Invited Guests:** David Coney, Ministry of Agriculture

**Regrets:** Carole Christopher, Shirley Wong (School Board Liaison), Joyce Rock, Matt Low, Spencer Herbert (Park Board Liaison)

*\*denotes partial attendance*

### 1. Opening:

- 1.1 Introductions- one guest attended the meeting as an observer
- 1.2 Review Meeting Agenda - Budget to replace Communications Committee, Meeting with SP and CoV added to 6. New Business
- 1.3 Consent Agenda - October Minutes approved

### 2. Updates

#### 2.1 Strategic Planning Objectives - Janine dIS

Document distributed with report from Committee meeting. At next Strategic Planning session, hope is to update status on action items and tasks, and to celebrate progress made to date. It was suggested to only revisit the objectives in depth every two years, new ideas to be collected and stored for 2008 planning session. Planning process to be reviewed, tasks assessed, new tasks explored. Dec 19 suggested as a date, Andre LR volunteered the Green Table headquarters for the meeting; FPC will cover the cost of food. Need help with recording and transcribing. Committee will meet again; contact Janine if interested in planning this session.  
**ACTION:** Janine dIS to send Objectives document to council members.

**ACTION:** Janine dIS to check date with members who are not here.

#### 2.3 Terms of Reference & Appointments - Peter L & Andrea R

FPC has been normalized within City structure. Peter noted that we could arrange for secretarial help to come from City Clerks office, budget to be discussed. Notes and bylaw document sent out prior to meeting. New changes include:

- Agenda to be sent out 7-10 days prior to meeting
- Must have quorum, a message must be sent to Chairs if you can't attend a meeting
- Alternates are not allowed

**ACTION:** Andrea R to send out summary of changes.

Andrea R thanked the group for sending biographies, appointments have been done. Herb B noted that there are 3 vacancies (2 at large, 1 waste management). Suggestions to fill these include drawing from the shortlist of those who applied last time, or people who were asked last time and may still be interested. It was felt that farmer representation was important, although it needs to be clarified if someone who lives/works outside of Vancouver can sit on Council. It was noted that a commercial farmer would bring a good perspective. Other suggestions included Vancouver Native Health. Someone with communications experience would be helpful.

**ACTION:** Kim S to take ToR to farmer's institutes to look for interest.

**ACTION:** Susan K to look into someone in Waste Management.

#### 2.4 Staff Update - Samara B

- Annual report is due in Feb. FPC works with staff to write it, item will be on January agenda. Secretarial support for meetings to be discussed at Strategic Planning session. Report on 2010 initiative to go to City Council in February, public consultations tentatively on Dec. 13, FPC representation welcome.
- Eco density report to council shortly. Revised over course of strike, parallel City initiatives will be mentioned, but are not incorporated into work plan. Report is on the web.
- 2010 initiative has community interest, trying to get Park and School Boards members and staff in agreement. FPC to meet with stakeholders and discuss all issues. Suggestion to bring Translink to discussion, also Public Works, Canada Line project owner.
- Urban Ag guidelines update for private developments will go to council the same day as 2010 initiative. Developers are using and adopting them. Input is still welcome.  
**ACTION:** Samara B will check if revisions have been done.

#### 2.5 Intergovernmental Liaison Committee - David Coney, Ministry of Agriculture (lead)

- 10 min on every agenda will be dedicated to this report. David requested input on which gov't agencies to approach for participation on committee. Suggestions included Ministries of Health, Education, Community Services, Employment and Income Assistance, Act Now (Tourism, Sport and the Arts), Climate Action Secretariat and the Land Commission.
- MoA policies focusing on climate change, food miles, health. Working with Ministries of Health, Environment. Direct marketing (farmers markets) is priority. Also, alternative land tenure for non-ALR land under "Buy Local". Priorities will be reflected in provincial agricultural plan to be launched in February.
- Capital region FAIR (Food & Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable) is working with capital region district to establish FPC, maybe through Roundtable on the Environment.  
**ACTION:** Samara B to send David copy of bylaw document.
- MoA community garden initiative, are looking for inventory across BC.  
**ACTION:** Samara to provide list of Vancouver gardens, Susan to provide list of school gardens. Looking for First Nations gardens (UBC farm suggested).

Contact: [David.Coney@gov.bc.ca](mailto:David.Coney@gov.bc.ca) / 250-356-0248.

#### 2.6 Budget

*Copy of budget from July distributed.* After discussion, it was decided that 1) the Communications Committee will work with Doug A to determine feasibility of completing the 'Identity package' with this year's budget, 2) the budget for Food Charter printing be increased by \$500, 3) the FPC inquire about cost of sponsoring the 2010 community consultations on Dec 13, and 4) that remaining funds to be used for forum on food and climate change in January.

### 3. Presentation

FORC report - Proposed postponing presentation until January. Have worked with health agencies and the United Way. Results of Food Assessments indicate that we will not achieve food security through food programs, due to lack of income and ability to grow food, pointing to a weakened social safety net. Using two dozen indicators, all say food will be more expensive and difficult to attain. FPC has crucial role in offering solutions. Need to relocalize the food system. System is dynamic, how change is managed will be critical. Reports contain much info (eg. maps on food programs, grocery stores, etc.) contact Chris or Herb if needed. Plans to print 100 copies of report, link is on Social Planning website.

**ACTION:** Herb/Chris to send report to Barbara J to take to food charter workshops.

4. **Announcements**

- 100-mile diet talk Nov. 23 at UBC, followed by workshop on food and climate change.
- Canadian Association for Food Studies (Ryerson) annual meeting in Vancouver May 31 - June 1. If interested in participating on the local planning committee or presenting a paper, contact Chris.
- Food charter mentioned in Vancouver courier. Don Genova from CBC interested in covering issue. Trish wrote column for January Shared Vision.
- 'Agency-based gardening' (between emergency food provision and community gardens), has produced a step-by-step book on gardens using case study.
- Food bank - new funds will increase the capacity of community kitchens. Contact is Diane Collis.
- Wise Hall Winter Market had over \$50000 in sales its first week, confirming huge demand. Will be talking publicly about political challenges within City. Would like to present at Feb FPC meeting. Will do 'breakfast briefing' in spring. Open House at Trout Lake re: Olympic Skating Rink. Comments from
- Speaker Series - Dec 8 at Langley Kwantlen College - Elliot Coleman - succession planning, stimulating farmers to extend season, growing for local markets tickets on sale online through farmers' market workshop. Alternative land holding as part of series in Jan/Feb. Info at eatlocal.org.
- GVRD (Metro Vancouver) consultation on regional growth strategy, contributions accepted until Jan 15.

5. **Action Items**

5.1 Green City award sub-committee

Six proposals will be put through seven criteria. One or two to be chosen, more if possible.

5.2 Food Secure Canada membership - \$100, agreement to renew.

5.3 **ACTION:** Andrea R to complete CFSC survey.

5.4 UBC farm symposium, want participation on planning committees that meets every 2-3 weeks.

**ACTION:** Yona S to volunteer.

6. **New Business:**

- Meeting with SP and CoV. (*Document distributed*) Official process for submitting letters to council, other agencies outlined.
- 2010 initiative - Meeting with stakeholders planned to resolve outstanding barriers (eg. Access to land), after which FPC to liaison with public. Tentative for end of Jan. SP can help with logistics, FPC can sponsor facilitator.  
**ACTION:** Andrea R, Melanie K and Eva R to help with invites.
- Molson has 15-20k for garden project. Suggested that Molson fund proposals that can't be funded through Green city award.
- GVRD (Metro Vancouver) regional growth strategy. It was suggested that FPC could comment of what little agricultural land is left.  
**ACTION:** Eva R will draft comment and send to council.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.