



6:00pm-8:30pm  
Town Hall Room, City Hall

Chairs: Caitlin Dorward and Tara Moreau

Council Members: Veronik Campbell, Larry Copeland, Rebecca Cuttler, Zsuzsi Fodor, Antonietta Gesualdi, Dirk Gibbs, Kimberly Hodgson, Will Jung, Gabrielle Kissinger, Ilana Labow, Pat McCarthy, Saber Miresmailli, David Speight

Liaisons: Adriane Carr (City Council), Theresa Duynstee (MetroVan), Corinne Eisler (VCH), James O'Neill (Social Policy, City of Vancouver), Sarah Carten (Social Policy, City of Vancouver), Michael Wiebe (Park Board)

Regrets: Anna Cavouras, Chashma Heinze, Emme Lee, Stephanie Lim, Colin Stansfield, Heather Deal (City Council), Janet Fraser (VSB), Orlando Schmidt (MoAg)

Absent: Andrew Christie

#### Agenda Items:

1. Motion to Accept Agenda and Previous Minutes (November 2015 Minutes)  
Moved by Caitlin, seconded by Dirk, carried unanimously.

2. Introductions

Members introduced themselves and gave one highlight from the past couple months and 10 guests introduced themselves.

3. Working Group Updates

##### *Proposed Reporting Framework*

- What? - Report on the activity of the WG over the past month
- Now what? - What the WG's next steps are, or what they need from the whole VFPC, or maybe they're not sure and they want to have a discussion.

##### *Active Working Groups*

- Leadership committee update - Kim  
What: The group met in December, and plans to meet again on Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. The working group supports the Co-chairs to better articulate what the governance structure is, and how to share responsibilities, develop strategies to improve meeting facilitation, and communicate both internally and externally.  
Now what: They will take the strategic planning work being done to create a one year strategic plan draft to present to council in February or March. The group will look at strategies to provide opportunities for having all voices heard, along with do's and don'ts for proper etiquette. The 'bread basket' has been introduced, where issues that arise during meetings can be put for revisiting. Process for e-voting and working with liaisons has been improved. Members will be sent a set of standard questions; the answers and a photo will be posted on the website.
- Right to Food - Zsuzsi  
What: The group met in early January, and has 4 key themes - 1. Continued existence of independent food grocers that serve particular communities (e.g. Chinatown, Fraser St). 2. The Sanctuary City movement, income equality and poverty. The Healthy Cities strategy has the best articulation for income as the root of food insecurity. 3. Re-examining diversity on FPC membership. 4. Understanding different diverse community food systems, where there is a research gap.  
Now what: Kevin from the Hua Foundation will be a guest speaker at the February meeting about Chinatown as a case study. The group may invite a Planner to help understand process and how to improve. Members will also attend the 'Access Without Fear' event that was circulated in an email, revisit the use of sector representation for FPC membership to include other diversities. The group may explore working with a Greenest City scholar to conduct research.

- School Food - Antonietta  
What: The group met in January. The group's overall objective is: To advocate for and support school food programs and food literacy in schools. Three goals that were identified are: provide input into VSB Sustainability Action plan, and ensure that food-systems thinking is explicitly included, to make recommendations on how CoV could enhance the pilot program, and to join the Coalition for Healthy School Food to advocate for a national program.  
Now what: The group plans to make a motion at the February meeting to request that the VFPC formally join the Coalition. The group is also exploring how the FPC could collaborate with other FPCs to advocate for the support for the Coalition. The group plans to meet again before the Feb VFPC meeting.
- Soil Proclamation - Tara  
What: 2015 was the International Year of Soils, and in conjunction with the VFPC, the CoV celebrated by proclaiming December 4 as Soil Day, and hosted a tour of soils at City Hall. It was explained that proclamations are to raise awareness.
- Development/False Creek Flats  
The group has not met but noted there is an upcoming advisory meeting that some members will attend, and that they plan to meet afterward.
- Renewable Energy  
Nothing to report; may be moved to a future working group.
- Distribution & Aggregation Infrastructure - Veronik  
What: The group has been working by email. The goal is to increase the amount of local food that is procured by residents, and to support those who are working toward this. This is intentionally vague to leave opportunities open to work with farmers, processors, distributors, etc.  
Now what: The group would like to hear more from the City, to avoid duplicating effort and to strategize their approach.

#### Discussion

Site C - while this issue is important for farmland, it does not fit well in the VFPC jurisdiction. There are many groups working on the issue (e.g. SPEC, BCFSN, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Sierra Club BC, Office of Indian Chiefs).

**ACTION:** Working groups are asked to complete the strategic planning document by the next meeting to help facilitate the strategic plan.

Website - a survey will be created and sent to members with standard questions that will be used to post on the website. Working group membership will be noted.

Celebrate Food with Us - the April meeting will be a celebration, grounded in food strategy with key highlights. There will be short presentations, and perhaps awards to recognize community champions. This is a joint initiative between the VFPC and the CoV, with the goal to gather stories that tell the positive impact of policies. Suggestions are welcome. Theresa agreed to help plan. It was noted that there is a need for more social events for people to get to know each other.

#### 4. Liaison Updates

##### *Reporting Framework*

- What? - Liaison reports on the item/issue (prioritize 2 things that are actionable)
- Now what? - What they want us to do about it, or what they would like to happen as a result, or maybe they're not sure and they want to have a discussion.

##### *Liaisons*

- City Council

Councillor Deal has been appointed as Deputy Mayor. Councillor Carr reiterated the benefit to her of listening and learning at meetings.

- City Staff (5 min)

James - looking for representatives from FPC to participate on the following:

- Pearson-Dogwood rezoning application - the site at 57<sup>th</sup> and Cambie is 27 acres and includes a one-acre farm as part of the proposal, which is available online. The entire process is expected to take 18 months. ACTION: James to circulate more information.
- Metro Vancouver Regional Food Action Plan - feedback is welcome by February 4<sup>th</sup>, as individuals or collectively. The action plan will guide the work of municipalities as related to the Metro Vancouver Food Strategy.
- Urban farming - an information session is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>, and the report will go to Council on February 2nd. It will likely get referred to a public hearing in early March. RSVP to James if interested in attending.
- Access to Service Without Fear - formerly called Sanctuary City - a meeting has been scheduled specifically with advisory groups; VFPC will send representatives.
- Kitchen study - consultant will present of findings in early-mid February. FPC representatives are welcome; let Sarah know if you would like to attend. Report will be made public.
- Zero waste strategy - approached by colleagues in Solid Waste, the strategy aims to look at 3 streams - consumer goods, demolition waste, and food waste. FPC members are invited to a series of meetings that will be convened to gather information. If interested, contact James who will liaise with Solid Waste.

- VSB

While not present, it was reported that Janet has been officially reappointed as the VSB liaison to the FPC.

- VPB - Michael

- Fresh Concession Strategy - there are currently 13 concession operators, and input is sought on what the strategy should look like. A consultant will review suggestions received through written letters, and the FPC is encouraged to provide one. The letter could address several aspects including affordability, health, partners, materials used, etc. The strategy could be a model/standard for other food providers in the city.
- Beverage procurement contract - the current 10-year exclusive contract with Coca-Cola is ending this year, and an RFP will be released soon for a new contract. The FPC was invited to review the RFP and provide input to ensure that it does not exclude smaller companies from bidding.

- Metro Vancouver - Theresa

Regional Food System Action Plan DRAFT is complete. It is a reflection of what local governments are doing. 80% of actions are being planned for coming year, and 20% of new actions are collaborative. Based on the 2011 framework, the strategy addresses emerging issues in the regional food system. ACTION: Send feedback to James. The strategy may then be revised and will be sent to the Board for adoption before being sent to municipalities for adoption.

- Ministry of Agriculture

Tabled.

- VCH

Cities Changing Diabetes - a committee has recently been struck to participate as one of 5 cities globally. Links to the Healthy Cities strategy will be made.

Discussion

Despite several guiding documents adopted by both the City and Park Board, it seems the procurement process could be better aligned to meet the goals of the various strategies. It was noted that addendums can be added to RFPs, and specific criteria can be weighted more than others. An ad-hoc working group will be formed to examine the issue: Pat, David, Teresa, Sarah, Veronik, Dirk, Kim, Larry, and Melanie. If interested in joining, contact Pat.

## 5. E-Voting Process

- Proposed changes to e-voting process

To address existing challenges with the process, the Leadership group suggests an improved process. Two types of requests are typically received - those that are fairly simple, and are likely to be approved, and those that are more complicated and/or contentious, that require more information and time to evaluate. Any member can bring forward a motion by email and that person will decide if the request is straightforward, or more complex. For simple requests, the motion will be made then members will be asked to vote during a certain time window. If any members feel the request deserves more time, then the request will be addresses as a complex one, and there will be time for discussion before the vote resumes. Experts on the issue could volunteer, and a teleconference arranged if needed. Quorum for the FPC is 11 members. Members would be able to vote Yes, No, or abstain. It was

clarified that the preference is to discuss issues at the meetings, and this process would be used for when the request is time-sensitive.

- Discussion

There was some discussion of what the timeline would look like. It was decided that a standard of one month be allowed to receive a decision, and that exceptions can be made at the discretion of the Chairs, depending on the nature of the request.

## 6. Outstanding Items

- Any missed items for the “bread box”, topics for next meeting, etc.

Value change conference on grains will happen February 18<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the MoAg and local farmers in Agassiz/Kent, it is targeted to those working in distilleries, breweries, and bakeries. Contact Pat for more information.

Bread basket issue - how to increase capacity of food policy council? Initial suggestions included hiring staff or using research assistants in working groups.

As part of her work, Kim has interviewed food system planners James O’Neill, Wendy Mendes, and Jaspaul Marwah. ACTION: Kim will send the links once available.

Vancouver Youth Food Policy Council - is hosting a crowdfunding event at Groundswell January 21<sup>st</sup>.

It was noted that when evaluating food truck proposals, that diversity was an important component, and could be applied to beverage contracts as well.

## 7. Motion to Adjourn

Moved by Ilana, carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm