Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council Minutes

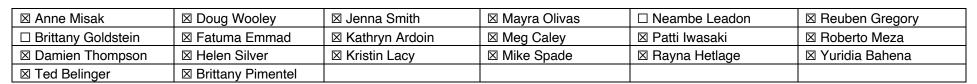
Meeting date: 03.17.2020

Location: Zoom Web Meeting

Co-Chairs: Kristin Lacy & Reuben Gregory

Minutes Prepared By: Dano Nelson





Ex - Officio:

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□ Laine Cidlowski	□ Dan Goldhamer	□ Valerie Herrera	☐ Lisana Munoz	□ Jennifer Moreland	
DPHE Staff:					
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⊠ Dano Nelson	⊠ Marion Kalh	⊠ Mondi Mason	□ Lesly Baesens	⊠ Lauren Howe	

Guests: Lyn Kathlene, Sophie Oppenheimer, Rachel Espiritu, Danielle Butbul, Eric Ross, Annie VanDan, Linda Kiker, Maggie Brown, Anne Conner, Tyler Fox, Megan Litchka, Jessica Harper, Adriana Botic

Welcome & Introductions			
TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS	
9:00am-9:20am		•	

- All were welcomed, and the meeting came to order
- Roll call and short introductions were made by Co-Chairs, SFPC members, Ex-Officios and Guests



Emergency Food Assistance			
TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS	
9:20am-9:35am		Meeting notes and links to shared documents can be found here (link included on Mobilize post)	

- Federal, State, & City Update (Laine Cidlowski)
 - o Families First Coronavirus Response Act (passed House, waiting in Senate).
 - o CO Dept. of Agriculture is coordinating an emergency food response task force, DDPHE is participating
 - o DDPHE working on emergency food response
 - Created an up to date database for food access provided by schools or food pantries
 - Also created an up to date list of food pantries operating status, hours, expected closures, pickup/delivery options, etc.
 - Food in Quarantine options delivery? (lacking, need more solutions)
 - Community Resource Map, web-based tool for basic needs assistance
 - Convening emergency food responders on a bi-weekly basis (contact Laine if other orgs need to be included)
 - Need to get these resources into other languages (some resources are available in many languages on DDPHE website, but not the food resources)
 - The city is looking into options to get more funding out to help with emergency response
 - HFDK is meeting this week to discuss diverting funds to address emergency food needs
 - Laine has been working with Public Health Investigations to get their guidelines for restaurants and is looking to get that information to food pantries and groups doing food distribution work
- Frontline Farming Update (Damien Thompson)
 - o Decided to postpone their food rescue programing to determine how to do this safely for the team and those receiving food
 - o Assessing where to best direct Frontline's resources
 - o Provided a resource document with herbal resources (reach out to Damien if you're interested)
- Sprout City Farms/Mile High Farmers Update (Meg Caley)
 - o Working to keep getting farms ready for spring
 - o Volunteer groups cancelling which will likely lead to labor shortages
 - $\circ\quad$ Focusing on getting the correct information and resources out to communities
 - o Holding pattern to hear about needs of people in their network
- CO Department of Human Services (CDHS) Update (Megan Litchka)
 - o Supporting counties and their questions about processing SNAP benefits
 - o Can generally be processed without face to face contact, processing can occur over phone, email and online
- Emerald Gardens Update (Roberto Meza)
 - o Still producing a lot of food for stores and restaurants
 - o Hoping to figure out new distribution models
 - o Delivering as far south as DTC and as far north as Fort Collins with possibility of extending south to CO Springs next week
 - O Struggling to connect with pantries. Has reached out to HFC to get a list of pantries in the grant program but hasn't heard back
 - Food pantries seeing drop off in volunteers

- o Farm is functioning as aggregation site for other farmers
- CSU Extension Update (Dan Goldhamer)
 - Pivoting to serve the community
 - o Providing research-based information and education
 - May be able to mobilize volunteers
- Bondadosa Update (Maggie)
 - o Connecting with non-profit partners to coordinate expanding delivery services
 - o Lost City Denver prep site, small work groups spaced out in kitchen
 - o Heavily sanitizing and disinfecting vehicles before and after routes
 - o Doing CSA deliveries for The GrowHaus
- The GrowHaus (Kathryn Ardoin)
 - o Growhaus building has been closed indefinitely due to zoning and infrastructure issues
 - o Looking for new opportunities including mobile market options and online shopping
 - o Still operating no cost grocery program, doing some home delivery to meet needs
 - o Focusing on Globeville/Swansea neighborhoods but won't turn people away
- Grocery Stores (Sprouts) Update (Mike Spade)
 - o Average customer is leaving with over \$600 in their cart
 - o Previously a good day in sales was \$100,000 and they're now seeing sales exceed \$800,000+ daily
 - Encourage people to find out when their local grocer is getting deliveries and shopping after deliveries come in and stores are restocked

Next Steps / Ideas		
TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
10:25am-11:00am		•

- Interest in working group to address emergency food needs
- Request for the SFPC to provide support & provide encouragement to prepare for long term support around community needs as the needs will exist for an extended period of time
 - \circ Leadership will take the lead on this but would like help from others
- Policy considerations around support of food systems workers, economic impacts and housing support
- Coordinated document to help identify resources and resource needs
- Suggestion to increase frequency of SFPC meetings to address emergency needs and better support city needs during Covid response
- Membership:
 - o Two applications on the SFPC website. Applicants need to fill out both. One for the SFPC and one for the city
 - Application window is open now, applications due April 15th
 - Four seats are open

- Pushing back the deadline may cause gaps when people term off in June and leave council seats open
- Please promote in your networks
- o If interested in participating in the interview process, contact Doug Wooley on Mobilize
- o If interested in reviewing applications, contact Patti Iwasaki on Mobilize
- o Discussion to extend deadline of application window:
 - Leadership will look into bylaws around extending the window of applications and expiring terms to cover potential gaps of council seats
 - Potentially move the deadline to mid/late June
 - Communication on this will come out via Mobilize to make a decision at a point in the future

Meeting Adjourned		
TIME	ACTION/DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
11:00am		

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 21st, 9:00am-11:00am Location TBD
- Meeting Adjourned