

Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council Minutes



Meeting date: 6.16.2020

Location: Zoom

Co-Chairs: Kristin Lacy & Reuben Gregory

Minutes Prepared By: Dano Nelson

Council Members:

<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Misak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Wooley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenna Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayra Olivas	<input type="checkbox"/> Neambe Leadon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reuben Gregory
<input type="checkbox"/> Brittany Goldstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fatuma Emmad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathryn Ardoin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meg Caley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patti Iwasaki	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roberto Meza
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Damien Thompson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helen Silver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristin Lacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Spade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rayna Hetlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yuridia Bahena
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Bellinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brittany Pimentel				

Ex – Officio:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laine Cidlowski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dan Goldhamer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valerie Herrera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisana Munoz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Moreland	
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DPHE Staff:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dano Nelson	<input type="checkbox"/> Marion Kalb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mondy Mason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lesly Baesens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Howe	
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Guests: James Hale, Hannah Buchenau, Luis Gomez (Interpreter), Maddie Grimm, Maria Ashley, Lara Fahnestock, Adriana Botic, Tasha Hill, Tisha

Welcome & Introductions, Call to Order, and Approval of Minutes (Kristin Lacy)

TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
9:00am-9:10am	Review and approval of minutes from May 2020 & June 5 th 2020 interim meeting. Motion to approve by Doug Wooley, Seconded by Helen Silver. All in favor. No opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.	•
Discussion:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Members reviewed the previous months minutes and a vote was held to approve the minutes 		

VOTE: SFPC Co-Chair (Kristin Lacy)

TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
9:10am-9:15am	VOTE: Approve new Co-Chair Doug Wooley. All in favor. No opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.	•

Discussion:

- Fatuma Emmad, Damien Thompson and Helen Silver were previously nominated but have rescinded their nominations
- Doug Wooley accepted the nomination
- Doug Wooley was approved by the council as the new SFPC Co-Chair to replace outgoing Co-Chair Reuben Gregory

VOTE: HFDK Liaison (Kristin Lacy)

TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
9:15am-9:40am		•

Discussion:

- Patti Iwasaki has been the HFDK liaison for the first year and will continue on the commission, however, she will not continue as a representative from the SFPC
- Commission members cannot and organizations they represent are not able to apply for HFDK funds while on the commission or in the future
- The term for the new HFDK liaison will begin in August
- Damien Thompson and Fatuma Emmad previously agreed to serve as HFDK liaison if no one else is willing to step up as a nomination
 - Boards and Commissions and HFDK bylaws would not allow for a split role but there may be a way to work out a proxy setup to share some of the work
 - Upon further review, Frontline Farming has been listed on an application which is being recommended for funding by HFDK and presents a conflict of interest, therefore Damien and Fatuma have withdrawn as nominees
- To provide more time for council members to consider whether they're able/willing to step into the role as HFDK liaison, the vote has been postponed

Anti-Racist Rood System Discussion & Recommendations (Laine Cidlowski & Kristin Lacy)

TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
9:40am-10:25am	Motion to approve signing on to MHF letter by Patti Iwasaki. Seconded by Helen Silver. All in favor. No opposed. No abstentions. Motion carried.	• Slides from Laine's update will be posted to Mobilize for anyone who would like to review

Discussion:

- Laine Cidlowski provided an update on the letter of recommendations the SFPC submitted to city leadership regarding actions the council found to be essential through the COVID-19 crisis.
- The floor was opened to the council & public to share thoughts on where the council can make recommendations for anti-racist policies & practices:
 - Fatuma Emmad and Meg Caley shared a statement of solidarity from Mile High Farmers (MHF) Justice & Equity Committee which also expresses their policy imperatives which support Black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) <https://www.milehighfarmers.com/mhf-solidarity-statement>
 - Patti recommends in addition to signing on to the MHF letter, the council also work to take on anti-racist policies in the future, but specifically at the upcoming annual retreat
 - There currently isn't an action plan for eliminating racism and injustice in the food system and Laine recommended the SFPC consider working on an action plan
 - Potential proposals around support of immigrants, refugees and BIPOC workers as well as proposals around increasing land ownership within the same groups
 - Ongoing infrastructure conversations have already identified the need for more focus on equity. Models for implementing equity policies exist and it would be wise to utilize these models
 - Project Protect Food Systems Work report on supporting food system workers in CO (primarily immigrant workers) https://069f0fa9-e11f-4b1b-98e5-5fc0cee8c322.filesusr.com/ugd/91763d_a9b007965e244c308cebaaa2d770d147.pdf
 - Valerie Herrera: Please keep the West Area Planning Initiative in mind as a resource that we can utilize to have recommendations and strategies that come out of SFPC. I want to give a quick shout out to Mondri Mason with DDPHE who has been a part of our efforts since Summer 2019 and has provided us with a ton of community-based feedback from FIC. I would like to be kept in the loop on these conversations to be the bridge of incorporating SFPC priorities into the plan - specifically for equity, inclusion and social justice. The Office of Equity and Inclusion is assisting our team with how to lean into this discomfort appropriately because it is priority for us. The plan is tentative for adoption Summer 2021 (if we don't have any other crazy times happen that push us back). https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/community-planning-and-development/planning-and-design/Neighborhood_Planning_Initiative/Planning-Areas/West_Area_Plan.html
 - Mayra Olivas: Hi Everyone, I think it is truly important to take on this topic of racial equity, as it seems that there is not much related to it in our food systems. When in reality these are things that go hand in hand, and we can't include one without the other to create a permanent systemic change
 - Damien Thompson: Continue to loop people into the work going on and connect with and identify leaders among different aspects of the food system working in equity
 - Request for further training around equity, diversity, inclusion and social justice
 - Interest in creating Adhoc working group with Laine to develop action plan focused on anti-racist policy in the food system
 - People expressing interest in working with this group: Patti Iwasaki, Helen Silver, Dan Goldhamer, Jenna Smith, Kathryn Ardoin, Lara Fahnestock, Valerie Herrera

CO Food Summit Follow Up & CSU Update (Becca Jablonski)

TIME	ACTION/ DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
9:54am-11:30am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides from this presentation will be shared on Mobilize • With technical difficulties and the meeting well past the scheduled time, the meeting was adjourned before the Q&A portion of the CO Food Summit Update was completed. Watch Mobilize for a potential call with CSU to continue this discussion at another time

Discussion:

- Becca Jablonski, Assistant Professor & Food Systems Economics
- Update on CSU work:
 - Established a Food Supply Task Force in response to the COVID-19 crisis
 - Work from this taskforce includes data analysis, publishing issue briefs on impacts to the food system, providing trainings to support farm worker safety, working with growers to curate online resources and working with direct markets to develop safety protocols and much more
 - Maps and issue briefs are available for widespread use on their website: <https://foodsystems.colostate.edu/covid19/>
 - Has there been any feedback on the matchmaking tool and its effectiveness?
 - The tool may have helped with awareness of who is available to be matched but most matchmaking has happened through referrals
 - What is CSU doing around data collection related to equity specifically focused on Colorado?
 - CSU is part of a USDA effort to understand how producers, distributors, etc. are being impacted by COVID-19
 - Working with CO Food and Vegetable Growers Association
 - How does CSU's work with JBS relate to food systems workers?
 - Department of Animal Sciences is working to provide support to JBS around worker testing but that was a few weeks ago. Held conversations about how to provide more resources for workers at the JBS facility. JBS is running into difficulty providing education to workers given the number of languages spoken
 - CSU taskforce has not been directly involved with testing but has been more involved with matchmaking
- CO Food Summit Follow Up
 - First CO Food Summit was held in January 2020
 - Summit was organized with over thirty-five community partners
 - Goals: Connect urban and rural actors within Colorado's food system, with a particular focus on rural producers and urban procurement agencies and advancing food policies that support rural-urban connections
 - Challenges:
 - Difficulty in achieving certain types of diversity due to broader socio-political tensions and differences of scale, need for sensitivity in talking to rural producers about change, differing values about source of problems and how to create change, limited resources to work toward consensus, either/or positions
 - Opportunities:

- More inclusivity with planning future events, additional clarify on scope and goals, potential to have third party facilitators help plan events, ways to encourage discomfort and learning, weaving in work aimed at elevating voices of non-owners/workers (especially labor)
- Looking toward the future
 - How can we ensure the SFPC can be more engaged in future efforts, including food systems events?
 - How can the CSU research team and extension?
- Questions/Feedback
 - How do you see your work with SFPC moving forward and what is CSU's role with National Western?
 - Would like to work together to better understand the relationship with SFPC moving forward
 - Likely to be an incubator of some sort at National Western, and participating with the public market when those plans move forward (public market plans have been put on hold due to budget issues with recession)
 - What is the notion of incorporating agricultural labor into a conversation / Has there been as much time put into building relationships with laborers as there has with producers? This may help bring more laborers to the table
 - Need to bring more voices to the table and look at how we're organizing people and bringing them to the table
 - What work is being done on your team to address this blind spot around the power dynamic?
 - Still thinking through it, haven't had any conversations around how an event like this would be produced in the future
 - CSU President has taken a strong stance around Black Lives Matter, however, it's difficult to not have a 150-year-old institution and not have aspects of racism built in
 - What efforts/actions specifically from Extension and this program?
 - In Denver, working to expand cultural competency and committed to social justice in all work
 - Request for update on National Western at some point in the future

Wrap-up & Networking

TIME	ACTION/DECISIONS	FOLLOW UP ITEMS
11:30am		•

Discussion:

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 21st, 9:00am-11:00am
- Meeting Adjourned