



**Sustainable Food Policy Board
APPROVED**

**AUGUST MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 22, 2011**

The Sustainable Food Policy Board (SFPB) convened on Monday, August 22, 2011, at Boards and Commissions Room, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas.

Chair Paula McDermott called the meeting to order at 12:40pm.

Board Members in Attendance:

Marla Camp, Vice-Chair	Paige Hill	Michele Murphy-Smith
Erin Flynn	Katie Kraemer	Ronda Rutledge
Shirene Garcia	Melanie McAfee	
Kathy Golson	Paula McDermott – Chair	

Absent Board Members:

Arthur D'Andrea	Toni Tipton-Martin	One vacancy
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Staff in Attendance:

Stephnie Connell, HHSD	Juanita Jackson, TCHHS	Edna Staniszewski, HHSD
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CALL TO ORDER

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Katherine Nicely – Briefly introduced herself as the new SFPB board member
Brenton Johnson – Local producer seeking outlets for organic produce
Jake Stewart – Latest Climate Models

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 25, 2011

Vice-Chair Marla Camp made motion to accept minutes. Member Erin seconded the motion.
Chair Paula abstained due to not being present at meeting. Motion passed. Vote of 9-0-1

3. SFPB BOARD CHANGES – APPRECIATION OF OUTGOING MEMBERS AND WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Board welcomed new board member, Kathy Golson. She and all the board members gave a brief description of themselves and of who appointed them for their position.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Cage-Free Chicken Resolution - SFPB response (Paula McDermott)

Chair Paula read the letter to the board. Member Katie made motion to approve letter with the two revisions discussed. Member Marla seconded the motion. Motion passed.
Vote of 10-0-0

B. Follow-Up on Cage Chicken/Egg Procurement Discussion (Paula McDermott)

The Board discussed the Resolution 20110804-25. Discussion was made to have item pass on to the working groups. Vice-Chair Marla made a motion to rescind adopted letter at last month's meeting due to Resolution not being of procurement. Member Michelle seconded motion. Motion passed. Vote 10-0-0

C. Sustainable Food Policy Board Annual Report (Marla Camp)

The board reviewed the draft report. Member Marla would like to present at next months meeting final report for approval so please let her know of changes or updates by Friday. No action taken.

D. Organize Strategic Planning Session for 2011 /2012 (Paula McDermott)

1. Community Input Session to be held in the community

Board would like to set up a community meeting on October 23rd at Workers Defense Center located at 5604 Manor Rd. Bus transportation is available on #20.

Member Ronda made a motion to have a working group formed to discuss community input meeting to be held on Sunday, October 23rd in the afternoon and this meeting will replace the October 24th meeting. Member Shirene seconded the motion. Vote 10-0-0

2. Propose Dates, Goals and Format/Facilitator

Strategic Planning session was discussed. It was agreed to hold the session before the November 28th Meeting.

E. Review Progress of Existing Working Groups:

• **Imagine Austin (Michele Murphy-Smith)**

The final act was to prioritize different strategies under each working group which showed no food working group. We focused on the society group which did get more focus on food.

○ **update, expand group to include work on best practices by SFC intern Heather Frambach**

The next step is to get Heather, Sustainable Food Intern, to help with research of other cities comprehensive plans and take every strategy from all groups and create one list to present so they may consider a food group and pass the information to the group who is working on the comprehensive plan.

○ **discuss inclusion of STAR Community Index framework**

Sustainability program has many components and the city was one of 10 cities selected. There are several modules but one of them is related to food which is the attachment passed out during the meeting.

• **Strategic Alliances and Communications – (Erin Flynn)**

Proposal for SFPB Communication Strategy

The Board discussed on process of getting information to everyone in a time manner. One suggestion was to go meet with the person who appointed member and give them an update of what the SFPB has accomplished and this might help with some communications. Also the support admin, Edna, is looking into how we can find out about resolutions and food relating items in a timely manner.

• **Composting (Paige Hill and Melanie McAfee)**

Solid Waste Master Plan and Organics Chapter review and input

Member Paige gave an update of the composting plan. Discussion was made to have Board members send any input to her by Friday so that she can put a letter together for

presentation at the October meeting. At next month's meeting the Board can decide if the composting group could dissolve. No action taken.

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Participation** (Arthur D'Andrea)
Item moved to Monday's meeting.
- **Urban Farming Best Practices** (Paula McDermott)
Item moved to Monday's meeting.
- **Healthy, Local, Sustainable Food at City/County Venues** – (Ronda Rutledge)
Item moved to Monday's meeting.
- **Food Surplus and Salvage** (Marla Camp)
Item moved to Monday's meeting.

F. Proposed Working Groups:

- **Water** (Katie Kraemer)

Purpose: To examine current policies in Travis County and the City of Austin affecting water use for agricultural purposes (food production) in order to better supply farmers serving the Austin community with a reliable water source.

Background research will include review of groundwater and surface water policy within the City and County. This working group will work with local water policy experts and City and County staff to determine how to better support sustainable food production, keeping in mind past mistakes and shortcomings related to water for local farms, the ongoing drought, and working within the limitations of State "rule of capture" water law. Recommendations for action will be made to the Austin/Travis County Sustainable Food Policy Board

Timeline: September 2011 to March 2012– report to SFPB for April 2012 meeting. Member Katie made motion to accept the Water working group. Member Marla seconded the motion. Motion passed. Vote 10-0-0

- Priority Assessment Working Group (Paula McDermott)

(Member Paige left meeting at 2:32pm)

(Member Toni joined meeting at 2:35pm)

(Member Katie left meeting at 2:37pm)

G. National Food Day Proclamation - October 24th (Marla Camp)

The board discussed the Food Day and the Proclamation. Member Marla proposed a proclamation be made by City Council to support the National Food Day.

Member Marla made motion to as City Council to support the Proclamation for National Food Day on October 24th, 2011. Member Erin seconded the motion. Motioned Passed. Vote 9-0-0

Member Marla made motion to approve the changes made to the Proclamation for National Food Day. Member Erin seconded the motion. Motioned Passed. Vote 9-0-0

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS - EVENTS AND RESEARCH RELATED TO BOARD CHARGES
AND WORK PLAN**

- A. Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project – Asheville, NC – sample of relevant work
 - B. National research
 - C. Update on Central Texas Food shed Assessment completion/distribution plans
- No discussion on above items due to time constraint.

6. DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

September 26, 2011 SFPB Meeting

- A. Work Session
- B. Community Input Session
- C. Introduction of new HHSD Director, Carlos Rivera
- D. Travis county staff Report - Draft (unapproved) FY 2012 Budget
- E. Discuss National Food Day Proclamation for October 24th
- F. Updates from Working Groups

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm