



**Sustainable Food Policy Board
Executive Committee
APPROVED**

**FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 21, 2012**

The Executive Committee of the Sustainable Food Policy Board (SFPB) convened on Monday, February 21, 2012 at City Hall–Boards & Commissions Room, 302 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Chair Paula McDermott called the meeting to order at 12:37pm.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Erin Flynn, Liaison
Paula McDermott, SFPB Chair
Michele Murphy-Smith, Liaison

Katherine Nicely, Liaison - absent
Ronda Rutledge, SFPB Vice Chair

Staff in Attendance:

Robert Kingham, HHSD
Teresa Nusbaum, HHSD

Jake Stewart, PARD

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Zareh – GMO labeling

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2012.

Member Michele made a motion to accept the minutes with revision to wording to say “they proposed compost pilot”. Member Erin seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-0.

3. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

A. Update on board-related letters - Mayor's letter re: farm bill and SNAP-related letter (Paula McDermott)

Board Chair Paula mentioned the letter is going out and the board will get a copy of it. The SNAP letter is still in process and hopefully will be able to present to board on Monday. No action taken.

B. Proposed Texas Department of State Health Services Rule Change Affecting Farmers Markets (Paula McDermott)

The committee discussed how this rule change would have an impact to farmers. The proposed language changes around food establish rule and cottage food rule is a concern to farmer’s market stands. No action taken.

C. Changes to city website and board's web presence (COA CPIO Staff)

The website is down and is in the process of being converted over to the Sustainability department. No action taken.

D. Board changes and executive committee structure (Paula McDermott)

At this time there are 2 positions open on the board, one is for the County and the other is for the City. For the County they would need to contact Juanita Jackson and for the City they would apply through the City website. No action taken.

E. Update on Current Working Groups

- **Food Production and Business (Katherine Nicely)**
A brief update on Food Service and Salvage working group and the Sustainable Urban working group was discussed. No action taken.
- **Food Access and Wellness (Michele Murphy-Smith)**
All input has been done at meetings for Imagine Austin. Staff for Imagine Austin will be at Monday's meeting to give an update. Update on Healthier Food on City/County venues was also discussed. No action taken.
- **Communication and Strategic Alliances (Erin Flynn)**
New members should be aware of all communication process. No action taken.

E. Finalize strategic planning process and working group priorities for 2012 (Paula McDermott)

Planning priorities need to be defined and that clear variables are also defined. A message will be sent to the board to have the information sent by Friday. No action taken.

F. Recent meetings and collaborations – CAN/Texas Hunger Initiative. Congress of New Urbanism Roundtable (Urban Agriculture and Distribution), UT Community Development Clinic (Law School)

A brief update was given. No action taken.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Texas Food Policy Workshop – February 17th, TOFGA
- B. Presentations – UT Health and Science Center – February 7th, UT Sustainable Business Summit – February 24th
- C. Texas Food Policy Summit – May 10th – 11th – San Antonio
- D. Travis County Snapshot – 2010 American Community Survey

5. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON FUTURE SFPB AGENDA ITEMS

Future Meetings

- Travis County Bond Process – Farmland Preservation
- Community Transformation Grant and Chronic Disease Prevention Related Work/Findings

(Member Ronda left meeting at 2:00pm)

Monday's Meeting

- Update on website from Public Information Office (PIO).
- Presentation on food waste disposal pilot (Bob Gedert, Director of Austin Resource Recovery -- formerly Solid Waste Services)
- Briefing on Imagine Austin process and inclusion of sustainable food and agriculture(Michele Murphy-Smith)
- Travis County Budget Review (Sherry Fleming)
- Working group priorities

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm.