



Sustainable Food Policy Board

MEETING MINUTES Monday, January 12, 2014

Board Members in Attendance:

Hildreth England, Kathy Green, Alexandra Evans, Ronda Rutledge, Carla Jenkins, Dominique Bowman, Brandon Reed, Erin Flynn, Felipe Camacho,

Absent Board Members:

Alexis Simon
Selena Booth
Mindy Cooper

Staff in Attendance:

Edwin Marty, OoS
Lydia Jarjoura, OoS
Meredith Gray, PARD
Juanita Jackson, Travis Co.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hildreth England called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- Meredith Gray, Parks & Recreation Department: Community Gardens Coordinator
 - Communicated to board on suggestions for proceeding with supporting community agriculture & applying for water tap waivers. Provided City Ordinance and discussed if language encapsulated ONLY community gardens, orchards or farms in addition to community agriculture.
 - Board Chair Hildreth England responded with the suggestion of a possible code change.
 - Board suggested attaching issue to Farmland Access working group as well as having a clear definition for community agriculture.

2. STAFF BRIEFING

- Austin's Food System Annual Report Update (Edwin Marty)
 - Questions/Comments:
 - AISD school gardens do not use the food grown in school lunches because of food service regulations and issues.
 - In the past, the board had discussed policy recommendations about school food service procurement and whether there could be a connection between local producers and larger chains.
 - Board Member Kathy Green, who serves on the Student Health Advisory Committee, will speak at next meeting to give latest updates on school food service challenges and opportunities.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF Oct. 13th 2014 MEETING

- Member Ronda Rutledge moved to approve minutes for the 12/2 meeting.
- Member Alexandra Evans seconded the motion.

- Motion to approve. All in favor.
- Minutes approved 9-0-0.

4. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

1. Board Infrastructure and Protocol

1) Boards and Commissions Task Force Information Update

- Staff Liaison Edwin Marty updated: City Council did not move forward with Board’s recommendation on increasing members or changing the name. CoA Boards & Commissions Coordinator, Deena Estrada, suggests having board members reach out to new council members about the recommendation. The new Mayor will appoint any replacement members but appointments will be voted on by entire city council. Travis County appointments will remain the same.
- Board Chair Hildreth England suggested that the board report back on a quarterly basis after meeting with appointers. Board member Felipe Camacho replied that reporting is critical for mapping progress. Board Member Kathy Green suggested communicating which board member will meet with which council member; suggested members communicate with council member in the district they live in.
- Board suggested that working group chairs be responsible for the strategic goal advocacy and they will report back using the working group progress report.

2) New SFPB Member recommendation to CoA Council/ Travis County Commissioner

- Board discussed replacement for Lisa Blackwell
 - After reviewing applicants, board members agreed to take action and recommend two new members for the Travis County Judge appointment.
 - Dominique Bowman motioned to make recommendations for Adrienne Haschke and Jake Carter.
 - Board Chair Hildreth England seconds motion.
 - All in favor. No abstentions.

2. 2015 Strategic Planning

I. Review December Strategic Planning Process

- Board revised Purpose Statement: “The purpose of the SFPB is to address health disparities, increase local sustainable food production, and end food injustices through research and advocacy. We strive to ensure the community has a voice in policy decisions that support a healing, thriving, and sustainable local food system in Austin/ Travis County. “
- Board Member Kathy Green motions to move forward to accept the purpose statement and goals as outlines with amendments.
- Member Carla Jenkins seconds.
- All in favor 9-0-0.

II. Select Working Groups needed to achieve 2015 goals

1. Retail Capacity

- Board decided to keep the Local Meats working group as a sub-working group
- Commission Chair: Dominique Bowman
- Commission Co-Chair: Carla Jenkins
- Board Members: Alexandra Evans, Erin Flynn

- v. Board Vice Chair Dominique Bowman and Board member Carla Jenkins will set up a meeting with staff liaison Edwin Marty to discuss past working group results and set up future meetings.

2. Codes & Ordinances + ~~Community Engagement & Outreach~~ + Food Security

- i. Community Engagement & Outreach should be imbedded into each working group so it was omitted from this working group title
- ii. Group statement edited: “Ensure community ~~leadership~~ engagement and participation in food systems-related discussions that address “food access” (took away quotation marks) at different scales....”
- iii. Commission Chair: Kathy Green, Brandon Reed
- iv. Commission Co-Chair: to be discussed with Selena Booth
- v. Board Members: Alexandra Evans
- vi. Board member Kathy Green will set up a meeting with staff liaison Edwin Marty to discuss past working group results and set up future meetings.

3. Farmland Preservation

- i. Commission Chair: Mindy Cooper
- ii. Commission Co-Chair: to be discussed
- iii. Board Members: Felipe Camacho

4. Farmland Access

- i. Commission Chair: Ronda Rutledge
- ii. Commission Co-Chair: Brandon Reed (or both will be co-chairs)
- iii. Board Members: Erin Flynn
- iv. Board member Ronda Rutledge will set up a meeting with staff liaison Edwin Marty to discuss past working group results and set up future meetings.

III. Review “Developing Advocacy Strategy” Document

- 1. Working groups will present to board at the March meeting

IV. Review and finalize “Developing Advocacy Strategy” document for Farmland Preservation Working Group

- 1. Each working group will complete

5. REVIEW OF BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

- Staff liaison Edwin Marty will discuss with Deena Estrada any opportunities for the Board to introduce themselves to the new Council. He will also meet with each working group to discuss past meetings.
- Board Chair Hildreth England will follow up with Selena Booth about absences.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Board Member Kathy Green will speak at February meeting about AISD Food Student Health Advisory Committee’s latest updates on school food service challenges and opportunities.
- There will be an update on the Travis County Land Water Transportation Plan
- Staff liaison Edwin Marty will provide Board with an update on Farmers’ Market permit fees.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- Board Chair Hildreth England adjourned meeting at 8:02 PM.