



## Austin Travis County Food Policy Board



## MEETING MINUTES Monday, September 12, 2016

The Austin Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, September 12, 2016 at the Street Jones Building, 1000 East 11<sup>th</sup> St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 400A, Austin, TX 78702

### CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Kathy Green called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

### Board Members in Attendance:

Jake Carter, Alexandra Evans (Vice Chair), Dustin Fedako, Jessica Gaffney, Kathy Green (Chair), Erin Lentz, Karen Magid, Sharon Mays

### Absent Board Members:

Felipe Camacho, Adrienne Haschke, Errol Schweizer

### Staff in Attendance:

Aiden Cohen, Meredith Gray, Edwin Marty, Madelyn Morgan, Amanda Rohlich

### 1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda. - None

### 2. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Aiden Cohen, Austin Resource Recovery, Business Outreach Program Manager. Gave overview of Universal Recycling Ordinance, with special attention to the organics diversion component (see presentation in back-up materials)
  - a) Questions/comments from Board Members
    - 1) Erin Lentz: How is business defined? Aiden Cohen: Any food retail with a food service permit that is within City of Austin jurisdiction
    - 2) Sharon Mays: Are you working with the health department, specifically around food recovery recommendations? Aiden Cohen: Health Department helped inform the development of the ordinance. There is food donation guidance on health department webpages.
    - 3) Erin Lentz: What are the options to divert organic discards to animal feed? Aiden Cohen: Infrastructure needed to convert that material to animal feed, very similar to that of feeding hungry people.
    - 4) Dustin Fedako: Glad to see the support and distinction of highest and best use of these materials. Is ARR working on waste profiles that highlight solutions by type of business? Aiden Cohen: Have some education materials by business type. Austin Materials Marketplace, an online broker of discards that can be used for another business' input, is being sponsored by the City to help connect businesses with surplus material streams.
    - 5) Dustin Fedako: Regarding concern about materials being able to be processed if all businesses were to come online effectively immediately is a moot point because this is a phased in ordinance. This ordinance will help develop the industry. Has the City considered top soil requirement in construction projects to create a use for end-product. TX Dot as single largest user of compost in their projects.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST MEETING

Board Dustin Fedako motioned to approve the meeting minutes from August 8, 2016 with Board Member Jake Carter seconding the motion to approve. All are in favor of approving with none opposing

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Board Infrastructure & Protocol
  - 1) Review Board Members' meetings with City and County Officials
    - a. Jessica Gaffney met with Brandi Clark Burton to support various recommendations. Happy to co-sponsor. Emailing and calling to most Council Members
    - b. Kathy Green spoke to all Council Members on Food Access Initiatives
    - c. Dustin Fedako spoke with Travis County Judge Sarah Eckhardt's and Travis County Commissioner Gerald Daugherty's office regarding Board Member appointments and Daugherty has elected Michael Hanan of Ten Acre Organics
- b) Board Recommendations Follow-up
  - 1) Local and Healthy Food Procurement – AISD and UT working with manufacturers and distributors to get information on whole food purchases to inform baseline score under the Good Food Purchasing Program. Creating supply where there is unmet demand so farmers are comfortable in investing in land, labor. Hopefully there will be press in the next couple of months.
  - 2) Healthy Food Access funding – see Healthy Food Access Initiatives summary in back-up materials. How do we do a better job of reporting out the status of these programs? Currently health department does not do an annual report to report the status. Suggestion for Budget and Policy to reflect on how best to handle this process in future years. Garza has taken leadership on issue with additional support from CM Kathy Tovo, Greg Casar, Leslie Pool, and Ann Kitchen.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Debrief of the Joint Sustainability Committee (JSC) meeting
  - 1) No update. Adrienne Haschke was absent and there has been no JSC meeting since the board last met.
- b) Working Group Briefings and Recommendations
  - 1) Budget and Policy – Updates from Kathy Green
  - 2) Codes and Ordinances – Sharon Mays gave update. Discussed strategy to move forward on how to further goal between CodeNEXT and the food policy board. City Staff Planner Mark Walters joined working group to offer suggestions on how the board could continue to make white paper actionable.
  - 3) Farmland Preservation and Access –. Adrienne Haschke absent. Next meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 11 to discuss priorities and establish new leadership.
  - 4) Food Safety and Innovation – Errol Schweizer absent. Potential to use this working group to address food donation and recovery. Consider including someone from Environmental Health and Safety on team to ensure success
  - 5) Healthy Food Security and Access –
- c) Review of Board Member Assignments
  - 1) Standing item—all board members to update Council and Commissioner profiles and meeting information after meetings **or send updates to Jessica Gaffney and she will make updates.**
  - 2) **Kathy Green** to send out copy of letter that was sent to Council Members advocating for social services funding
  - 3) **Alexandra Evans** to invite Brighter Bites to October meeting
  - 4) **Amanda Rohlich** to send out Doodle poll to schedule advocacy training

- 5) **Edwin Marty** to come up with list of City and County food system related programs for short presentations/updates to board starting January 2017

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1) August: Advocacy training--recommended as separate meeting apart from regular board meeting
- 2) October: Brighter Bites October
- 3) November: Green Gate roll out of new site development
- 4) Who is the County and City funding? Give updates on how they are spending money around food access, food recovery. Start in 2017. With short updates.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Kathy Green adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m. without objection.