



Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board

MEETING MINUTES
August 8, 2020

**The Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, August 8, 2020
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>**

Board Members in Attendance:

Andrea Abel, Emily De Maria, Felipe Camacho, Joy Casnovsky, Joi Chevalier, Kacey Hanson, Karen Magid (Chair), Ryan Rosshirt, Ellen Sweets (joined the WebEx meeting at 10:19 am)

Absent board members: Sharon Mays, Kara Prior

Staff in Attendance:

Edwin Marty, Amanda Rohlich

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Karen Magid called the meeting to order at 10:03 am

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- a. Paula McDermott – speaking in support of the COVID-19 response recommendation and gratitude to the board for bringing light to these issues. Support to fund Black-led organizations that are doing food access work with \$400k to address systemic change in our food system.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 26th MEETING

Board Member Joi Chevalier motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 26, 2020, with Board Member Joy Casnovsky seconding the motion. Passed on a 8-0 vote.

Introduction of new Board Member, Joy Casnovsky.

2. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Office of Sustainability, update on food access response to COVID-19 – Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager and Food Access Coordination Taskforce Lead. (See presentation in back-up materials)
 - i. Request for 211 Food Call Data Reports
 - ii. Request from Andrea Abel for preliminary SNAP incentive group information before report is finalized

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Board Infrastructure & Protocol
 - i. Review Board Members' meetings with City and County Officials
 - i. Ryan Rosshirt – met with staff from the following Austin City Council and Mayor's Office: Harper-Madison, Renteria, Mayor - Adler, Kitchen, Pool, Garza; broad support for funding and broad opposition to full-time positions. Important

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to get Garza's support and other offices will get in line behind that. Provided public comment at the 7/23 budget work session .

- ii. Andrea Abel – 7/30 public comment to Austin City Council, Met with Chief of Staff Katherine Nicely. MPT Garza is supportive of RISE Funding and emergency funding for COVID-19 response outlined in the recommendation. Vive Bien/Live Well to bring mobile food services to Colony Park, Hornsby Bend, and Del Valle. Looking for food policy board support for this initiative at \$400k.
 - iii. Emily De Maria – outreach on Food Pantry Permitting to Garza's office
 - iv. Kacey Hanson – provided public comment at the Austin City Council meeting on July 30th
 - v. Joi – met with Harper-Madison and Flannigan; met with Commissioner Shea and reached out to the other County Commissioners on Friday 8/7.
 - vi. Karen Magid – provided public comment at the Austin City Council meetings on July 23 and July 30; met with staff in Casar, Garza, Pool, Kitchen's office
- b. Board vacancies and appointments
- i. New member – Joy Casnovsky
 - ii. Two additional vacancies: County Commissioner Daugherty and Mayoral vacancy
 - iii. Apply, advocate for themselves, let board know they applied, board members can individually advocate for applicants.
 - iv. Felipe Camacho has been providing support to a potential replacement for Lorig Hawkins.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board Annual Report and responsibilities
- i. Discuss Annual Board Internal Review report – Karen submitted on-time July 31
 - ii. Discuss annual strategic planning meeting – suggestion to reserve September or October meeting for strategic planning
 - iii. Discuss vote and take possible action on Board Chair and Vice-Chair Positions
 - i. Board Member Ellen Sweets motioned to appoint Karen Magid to remain as Chair, with Board Member Joy Casnovsky seconding the motion. Passed on a 8-0 vote with Ellen Sweets abstaining.
- b. Update on Community Climate Plan Revision
- i. Office of Sustainability Staff would like to present the Austin Community Climate Plan update and get feedback from board specifically on food section.
- c. Working Group Briefings and Recommendations
- i. Build Opportunities for Food Entrepreneurs – Emily De Maria provided an update. Resolution passed on the consent agenda at the Special Called Meeting on July 29.
 - ii. Support Farms & Farmers – Felipe Camacho provided an update. Working to onboard a new food policy board member. Working Group is planning to meet soon.
 - iii. COVID-19 Food System Response – Karen Magid provided an update. 1) Emergency Response Needs, 2) Two FTEs and funding for the Equity Toolkit and Food System Planning efforts, 3) Creation of a Food System Department and establishment of funding stream. Casar and Garza have \$400k in current budget amendments earmarked for mobile solution Vive Bien/Live Well but does not address longer term solutions or root issues.
 - iv. Healthy Food Access to All Communities – Andrea Abel provided update. Comment from Garza's office was that these were not community led proposals. Suggestions to remove the word "planning" from Regional Food System efforts. Appetite for funding

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plans in very low. Members of the food policy board asked to provide support for line item for Vive Bien (formerly EquidadATX) proposal. Couple with request for longer term planning. Strategies to move recommendations forward outside of City Council. Kacey Hanson's suggestion to work with Ashton Cumberbatch on longer-term solutions. Suggestion to rally community around the short-term solution (Vive Bien) and long-term planning (Equity Toolkit and Regional Planning). Emily De Maria gave update on CTFB conversations and work with Vive Bien and CapMetro, but not a short-term solution.

- d. Review of Board Member Assignments
 - i. Amanda Rohlich to send March, April, May 211 Call data reports
 - ii. Kacey Hanson and Joi Chevalier to connect on strategy to reach out to County Commissioners
 - iii. Amanda Rohlich to send final draft of the annual report out to all board members
 - iv. Andrea Abel to share the one-pager overview of the Vive Bien project
 - v. Andrea to connect with Joy Casnovsky and Ryan Rosshirt with more information about Vive Bien

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- i. Staff to present on best practices from around the country
- ii. Food and climate goals and strategies included in Austin Community Climate Plan
- iii. Revisit list of future agenda items based on previously identified groups
- iv. WG to pull together reports to write Annual Report (due at end of July)
- v. Strategic Planning in August

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Karen Magid adjourned the meeting at 11:34 am

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