



Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board

MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 2021

The Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, August 2, 2021 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING

Board Members in Attendance:

Andrea Abel, Joy Casnovsky, Joi Chevalier, Emily (Nicola) De Maria, Kacey Hanson, Karen Magid, Sharon Mays, Ryan Rosshirt

Karen Magid left dais at 9:35 am and rejoined at 9:42 am
Joi Chevalier left dais at 9:47 am

Staff in Attendance:

Edwin Marty, Amanda Rohlich, Emmie DiCicco

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Sharon Mays called the meeting to order at 9:02 am

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Errol Schweizer – listening in to get reacquainted with the Board's work and he looks forward to rejoining the board as an active member for the next meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY MEETING

Board Member Emily De Maria motioned to approve the meeting minutes from July 12, 2021, with Board Member Joy Casnovsky seconding the motion. Passed on an 7-0 vote.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Board Infrastructure & Protocol
 - i. Review Board Members' meetings with City and County Officials
- b. Board vacancies and appointments
- c. Review Prior Board Recommendations and Discuss City and County Budgets
- d. Community Engagement

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discuss Annual Internal Review
- b. Discuss Strategic Planning
 - i. Presentation by Food Policy Manager Edwin Marty regarding Municipal Food System Planning (see back-up materials for presentation)
 - ii. Chair Sharon Mays provided overview of strategic planning structure and objectives of the Strategic Planning Meeting, especially as it pertains to getting work done and utilizing working groups

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For more information on the Food Policy Board please contact Edwin Marty at 512-974-2120

- iii. Each Board Member to provide quick overview of why you joined the board and what you hope to achieve
 - i. Sharon Mays – Owner of Baby Greens. Had family land in East Texas and wanted to turn it into a working farm but didn’t know how to do that. Interested to work on co-op for independent restaurant owners. Interested in food hubs and how it could help the collective of restaurants
 - ii. Kacey Hanson – Joined the food policy board as a County appointee because a portion of the County she represented is where she grew up. Local grocery store is limited and has a security guard. Interested in access and works as a professional researcher. Wants to learn more about policy and how to improve health in Austin
 - iii. Joy Casnovsky – Works at Sustainable Food Center and has worked with the Board over the years. Aligns with work to improve food access and support farmers. Main reason for being on the board is to help align SFC and Food Policy Board so Austin Travis County can have a healthier food system
 - iv. Andrea Abel – On food policy board for over 4 years. Background in agriculture and food policy. Bring a historical perspective to the board. Experience in state government and CBOs especially around community engagement. ED of Farmshare Austin and have boots on the ground with farmer connections, community connections, food access, and help facilitate two-way connection between community and board.
 - v. Ryan Rosshirt – Interested in localizing the food network. Interested in fair labor practices in the food system.
 - vi. Karen Magid – Bringing a connection to Huston-Tillotson University. Interested in the intersections of food policy and other social and environmental justice, and specifically food and climate.
 - vii. Emily De Maria – Chief Program Officer with the Central Texas Food Bank which has been involved with the board historically. Brings personal perspective and food bank’s perspective to inform the board and take that information back as well. Engage with larger swatch of community. Interested in food labor issues as well.
- c. Working Group Briefings and Recommendations
 - i. Healthy Food Access to All Communities
 - ii. Governance
 - iii. Food and Climate
 - iv. Build Opportunities for Food Entrepreneurs
 - v. Support Farms & Farmers
 - vi. COVID-19 Food System Response
- d. Review of Board Member Assignments
 - i. All Board members to review examples of food plans from other cities and provide feedback to the Food Planning Team (City staff) on strengths and weaknesses of the plans
 - ii. Staff to send out email about convening Board to review and discuss strengths/weaknesses of other food system plans. Gauge Board Member availability to join
 - i. A board only meeting to review plans; 2 meeting times will be made available if more than 6 board members are interested
 - ii. The HFAWG on August 19th to review other city plans for community feedback

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- iii. All Board members to brainstorm what they would like to accomplish for the Strategic Planning Meeting in September
- iv. Sharon Mays reaching out to Mayor and County Commissioners to remind them to make their appointments
 - i. Joy Casnovsky to draft template email to encourage Mayor and County Commissioners to appoint vacancies

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Sharon Mays adjourned the meeting at 10:01 am

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