



Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board

MEETING MINUTES October 16, 2023

The Austin-Travis County Food Policy Board (ATCFPB) convened on Monday, October 16th at the City of Austin Permitting and Development Center, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Dr, Room 1406, Austin, TX 78752.

Board Members in Attendance:

Andrea Abel, Lisa Barden, Marissa Bell, Mark Bethell, Joi Chevalier, Kacey Hanson, Karen Magid

Board Members Absent:

Larry Franklin, Rosamaria Murillo, Sari Vatske

Staff in Attendance:

Edwin Marty (City of Austin), Amanda Rohlich (City of Austin)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joi Chevalier called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Board Member Mark Bethell motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 11th with Board Member Lisa Barden seconding the motion. Minutes passed on a 5-0 vote with Andrea Abel and Marissa Bell abstaining.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Review board members' meetings with City and County officials
 - a. Kacey Hanson reported that Travis County has taken lead on informing commissioners about food planning. Met with Comm. Travillion to share updates including new funding. Joi Chevalier, Kacey Hanson, and Karen Magid attended, along with Nitza Cuevas who is a Community Advisory Committee member. The plan is to meet every other month. Comm. Travillion gave some important feedback on Meeting in a Box.
 - b. Lisa Barden met with County Commissioner Shea on behalf of One Voice to share information about how non-profits are supporting social services with an ask to get more funding allocated to social service contracts. Shea had some interest in healthy food access projects
 - c. Joi Chevalier went in front of the County Commissioners Court and shared potential future impact of LFRF funds going away. A lot of access programs are funded by these dollars. What will happen when that funding comes to a close next September? Shea and Travillion asked about the extension of these projects

into housing. How does City and County have these funds when federal funds are no longer available.

3. Review prior board recommendations and discuss City and County budget opportunities
4. Board vacancies, appointments, and reappointments. Three vacancies from Comm. Howard, Shea, Gomez. One term reappointment is required from Comm. Travillion (Kacey Hanson's position).
5. Discussion of Annual Internal Review and Report – Joi Chevalier is working on this and will submit soon.
6. Discussion of Joint Sustainability Committee meeting, Larry Franklin
7. Discussion of Food Planning Working Group, Karen Magid
 - a. The Community Advisory Committee has approved a timeline process and vision statement that is getting passed to the Issue Area Groups
 - b. The CAC is in the process of developing a set of broad, guiding Objectives for the overall Food Plan. Objectives (CAC developed) provide guidance to setting Goals (defined by IAG) which informs Strategies (specific solutions that will help achieve Goals, defined by IAG).
 - c. The CAC is refining objectives. Currently there are six objectives, but they are still under development. Goal is to finish the objectives by this Friday so they can be shared with the IAGs.
 - d. Question about how the cross-cutting themes are different from the Objectives. Cross cutting themes informed the objectives. They will be used in the Sustainability and Equity Assessment Tool (SEAT) to help evaluate goals and strategies.
 - e. Louisville, KY put out manifesto of how they are approaching the development of their food vision. What can we provide as a preamble or opening of the plan that then leads into the vision. Specifically, it brings up the Right to Food. There are some common expressions that are useful, but we should have a full discussion of what goes into them.
 - f. All of the IAGs have had their first workshop. The five IAGS will meet for three more workshops between now and February 2024.
8. Discussion of Emergency Preparedness, Including Resilience Hubs (as determined in Strategic Planning)
 - a. Lisa Barden pulled questions together as follow-up for HSEM. Edwin Marty received verbal responses and can provide updates. HSEM staff was unable to attend today but did approve these verbal updates.
 - i. What's the timeline for the completion of the Special Operations Plan? The plan should be completed by the end of calendar year 2023.
 - ii. What is the plan for hiring a Mass Care Branch Director and Food Access Coordinator? HSEM will be posting the Mass Care Branch *Coordinator* position this week. The *Director* is a unique position that happens during the disaster. The Food Access Coordinator position will report to Mass Care Coordinator. The job description is being drafted over the next month and be posted within the next month or so. Resilience Hub Coordinator position(s) will be hired soon as well.
 - iii. Can you provide information on tabletop exercise opportunities for external organizations for disaster planning? There is nothing planned for 2023 but HSEM will host a meet and greet for relevant organizations involved in mass care branch services / activities to meet the new mass care branch coordinator.

- iv. Update for the question of an unrestricted revolving fund to support procurement of food in non-federal or state declared disasters (i.e., disasters that are not eligible for FEMA funding). HSEM was not in a position to respond to this but rather is that this is a policy level decision. Finding other examples of this in other cities would be a good next step for the board.

9. Discussion of Food in All Departments

- a. Andrea Abel, Lisa Barden, and Kacey Hanson met to discuss. The group acknowledged that there is some homework that needs to be done. They will dissolve the Healthy Food Access for all WG but this new group is not yet working group ready. Action items include:
 - i. Board members to read London Food in all Policies
 - ii. Board member to read the one pager of how City departments work on food issues
 - iii. Board members to report back in six months
 - iv. Suggestion to divide up mayor appointed board members and assign themselves to a City Council Member to explore what it would look like for every department to consider funding for food access. Food access as a cross cutting theme.
 - v. Request to have a list of staff that are involved in food planning.

10. Discussion of other board activities not included in previous updates

- a. Lisa Barden met with people from So All May Eat (SAME) organization that is developing participate what you can cafes, specifically in libraries. A follow-up call will be scheduled within the next week.
- b. Edwin Marty shared out about the Central Texas Food Bank data dashboard, a compilation of secondary and primary data. CTFB proposed that they do a presentation on October 26 at 9 am and a follow-up presentation on October 30 at 5 pm. They would also share more about their current and future operations to align with food planning.

11. Review Board Member Assignments

- a. Kacey Hanson will send Amanda Rohlich the meeting materials from meeting with Comm. Travillion and Amanda will send to all board members.
- b. Joi Chevalier will look to schedule some time in small groups of six or less to discuss future budget items in advance of March deadline.
- c. Amanda Rohlich to reach out to Larry Franklin to see if he has any JSC meeting updates to share with the board.
- d. Amanda Rohlich will share out the Louisville, KY food 2023 Greater Louisville Food Justice Declaration.
- e. Edwin Marty to share HSEM Mass Care Branch Coordinator position once available.
- f. All Board Members to read London Food in all Policies.
- g. All Board Members to read the one pager of how City departments work on food issues.
- h. Kacey Hanson, Lisa Barden, and Andrea Abel to report back in six months on progress made on Food in All Departments.
- i. Suggestion for all mayor appointed board members to assign themselves to a City Council Member to explore what it would look like for every department to consider funding for food access. Food access as a cross cutting theme across all department operations.
- j. Staff to share a list of City and County staff that are involved in food planning.

- k. Staff to share an invite for a presentation from CTFB data dashboard and operations presentation.

DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ITEMS

- 12. Discuss and take possible action on the 2024 Austin/Travis County Food Policy Board Regular Meeting Calendar. Lisa Barden made a motion to meet on the following dates with Kacey Hanson seconding. All in favor, 7-0.
 - a. January 8, February 12, March 18, April 15, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 21, November 18, December 9

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 13. Discussion and scheduling of future agenda items
 - a. Resilience Hub / Chief Resilience Officer update
 - b. Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan update

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Joi Chevalier adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm

Minutes were approved at the November 13, 2023 full board meeting on Board Member Kacey Hanson's motion with Board Member Karen Magid seconding. Minutes passed on a 9-0 vote.