

DUBUQUE COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 13, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

HYBRID Meeting:

In-Person: 1225 Seippel Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52001 (Dubuque County's West Campus)

Zoom: recording to come

MEETING MINUTES

Council members present: Rich Henderson, Michaela Freiburger, Sunil Malapati, Paul Schultz, Kathy Hutton, Whitney Sanger, Samantha Kloft, Octavius Evan, Catherine Caitlin, Andy Spaniol, Octavius Evans

Council members not present: Gwen Hall-Driscoll, Cindy Hilken, Saralyn Smith-Collingwood, Lynn Sutton

Non-council members present: Candace Eudaley, Danielle Stowell, Ray Kruse (ISU Extension), Laurana Snyder, Delia Hallbach, Ann McDonough (county supervisor)

Call to order: 4:02 pm

Approval of minutes:

Whitney motioned to approve

Rich 2nd

Minutes approved

Public comments:

- Supervisor McDonough suggests that DCFPC members become part of the next year's BoH envisioning process. Current executive director will be retiring, and perhaps other changes that offer opportunity for input, strategy, and funding
- Laurana Snyder: horticulturist & farm coordinator at Sinsinawa Mound
 - Oversees the collaborative farm program
 - Currently has openings for new & emerging farmers who want low- or no-cost introductory opportunities for farming on organic-certified land
 - https://www.sinsinawa.org/about-us/sinsinawa_mound/collaborative-farm.html for more information

Local Food Planner Updates:

- Winter Market: December 18 will be another Food For Thought Presentation (DCFPC grant recipient). Council representatives are welcome to be present -- Sunil may attend to staff table. DCFPC member Whitney is one of the two presenters.
- Survey Results & Strategic Plan:
 - 27 total results, very targeted respondents & thorough responses
 - View slides for summary
 - Discussion:
 - Paul Schultz plans to reconvene the Policy subcommittee to go over and revise goals

Sunil Motions to adopt timeline: Jan/Feb revisiting previous planning documents & survey data, to use the March DCFPC meeting (or a separate strategic plan meeting) to finalize and adopt a strategic plan
Rich 2nd
Motion approved

Subcommittee Updates:

- Grants: new contracts & reporting processes are worked through, so funding should be available to grantees very soon
- Policy: Paul Schultz wants to reconvene the members of the policy subcommittee, open to adding more members (general public is welcome to join subcommittees even if they are not on the council)

Council updates:

- Michaela: Chair Updates
 - Recommended priorities based on Food systems network & partner calls and meetings at the State-level (see slide presentation for summary)
 - Statewide Food Charter being drafted by Johnson County -- currently in data collection phase. DCFPC has been invited to schedule a virtual session to further the conversation
 - Federal dollars are out there for local market promotions -- they serve as a good model for how to use those to increase market capacities, visibility, and services (double-up-food-bucks, promotion, etc.)
- Whitney:
 - Project Rooted will also be hosting a fresh foods drive this Saturday at Winter Farmers Market
 - As of January the farm-to-school coordinator will officially be part of all Dubuque Community Schools 1st grade curriculum
- Kathy: Food Pantry need is up 15-17% higher than previous years, expects an increased need over the holiday season

Community Updates:

- ISU Extension agreement has been drafted & submitted for approval to formalize ex-officio participation of extension representatives on DCFPC
- Goals of each organizations were reviewed & any overlap were included as common goals to work toward. Policy is NOT part of this agreement, ISU Extension prioritized education & resource sharing

Paul motions to approve the formal agreement

Catherine 2nd

Motion approved

4:56pm - Kathy motions to adjourn

Rich 2nd

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting:

4:00pm - Monday, January 10, 2022