



MEETING MINUTES

June 5th, 2012

One Parkway Building, 1515 Arch Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	PAGE
A. WELCOME	Called to order at 3:10pm	2
B. ROLL CALL	Quorum	2
C. FPAC PROGRESS TO DATE AND OUTLOOK	Discussed	2-3
D. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS		
1. Policy recommendations for FPAC White Paper 2012		
a. Workforce Development Strategy Sub-committee	Approved	3
b. Anti-Hunger Sub-committee	Discussed	3-4
c. Vacant Land Sub-committee	Discussed	4
2. Report back - Governance and Membership Sub-committee	Discussed	4-5
E. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS	Discussed	5
F. ANNOUNCEMENTS	Discussed	5
G. DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING	Discussed	5
H. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned at 5:00pm	5

A. WELCOME

A general meeting of the Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC) was called to order by Co-Chair, Joan Blaustein, at 3:10pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum¹ was present to conduct official business.

Members Present

Marilyn Anthony	Jessica McAtamney	Viery Ricketts Thomas
Nic Esposito	Carey Morgan	Nicky Uy
Leanne Krueger-Braneky	Bob Pierson	D.L. Wormley
Shiriki Kumanyika	Carly Spross	

Ex-officio Members Present

Joan Blaustein, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation (Co-chair)
Mary Horstmann, Mayor’s Office of Policy Planning and Coordination
Amanda Wagner, Philadelphia Department of Public Health

Members Absent

Glenn Bergman (Co-chair)	Alison Hastings	Johanna Rosen
John Byrnes	Ann Karlen	Patricia Smith
Mary Seton Corboy	Jamie McKnight	
Diane Cornman-Levy	Lisa Mosca	

Others Present

Amy Laura Cahn, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia
Swaroop Rao, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia
Michael Paci, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia
Emily Gunther, Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Aimee Hill
Karl Ingram

Staff Present

Sasha Swayze Dews, FPAC Coordinator

C. FPAC PROGRESS TO DATE; PREFERRED FUTURE EXERCISE: REVISTED; AND OUTLOOK 2012-2013

The meeting began with a summary of FPAC’s progress to date, a review of the facilitated group exercise from last May, and a look at some key items planned for 2012-13.

Progress to Date

Following the release of Greenworks Philadelphia in the spring of 2009, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Mayor’s Office of Sustainability formed an executive team to begin the initial membership nomination process for FPAC. Mayor Michael Nutter appointed 24 members to serve on the council for the first term. The first general meeting was held in January 2011 and six subsequent general meetings have taken place. In May 2011, a facilitated group exercise led to the creation of four subcommittees: Anti-Hunger and Local Food, Governance and Membership, Vacant Land, and Workforce Development Strategy. Out of these subcommittees three by-laws were established and six policy recommendations were adopted and included in Greenworks 2012 Progress Report and Mid-Way

The Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC) facilitates the development of responsible policies that improve access for Philadelphia residents to culturally appropriate, nutritionally sound, and affordable food that is grown locally through environmentally sustainable practices. 2

Update. The first FPAC White Paper will be prepared over the summer. The council is now a functioning body with active members and in a position to begin its second full year of business.

Preferred Future Exercise: Revisited

Last May, a facilitated group exercise designed to identify priority focus areas directly led to the creation of three subcommittees. As newly formed work groups, these subcommittees were asked to answer questions about what their future held. The facilitator told the subcommittees to “imagine that we are all back here in this room to celebrate the successes and accomplishments we have achieved together over the past year.” Almost exactly one year later we reviewed the results of the “preferred future” exercise. Time was not allotted to review the document in full detail. However, upon cursory glance members commented that revisiting the exercise provided an interesting perspective for moving forward.

Outlook for 2012-2013

The council has significant business to address in 2012-13. Three foreseeable new agenda items in the coming year are a seminar on policy development by Suzanne Biemiller and Katherine Gajewski, a City food policy briefing series, and the creation of FPAC’s web presence.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

All subcommittees gave reports on policy recommendations for the FPAC White Paper 2012 and the Governance and Membership Subcommittee gave an update on their continued efforts.

1. Policy recommendations for FPAC White Paper 2012

a. Workforce Development Strategy Sub-committee

Nic Esposito presented for the sub-committee. The sub-committee recommendations for the White Paper are the same as those approved for Greenworks, with the exception of minor changes to the language. The action item was adopted with modifications. The sub-committee stated they plan to continue to follow the abundance of activities around youth development across Philadelphia. Related to the subcommittee policy recommendation on food procurement, Amanda Wagner mentioned the Health Department might host a workshop on healthy and local food procurement for large institutions. They are aiming for September and she will follow-up with more information.

- ACTION TAKEN: The council adopted the policy recommendations with modifications.
- ACTION REQUIRED: Follow-up on food procurement workshop.

b. Anti-Hunger and Local Food Sub-committee

Carey Morgan presented for the sub-committee. She stated that Philadelphia’s problems around hunger have, sadly, not gotten better since the sub-committee first gathered. With state funding changes and the elimination of government assistance programs more Philadelphians will become eligible for SNAP and other benefits. Carey stated the council and the sub-committee are correct to focus on outreach around access to SNAP and other benefits. Mary Horstmann informed the council that a PSA was written about SNAP eligibility and enrollment. The City’s 311 service has begun training operators on emergency food resources available to callers throughout the city.

The second issue the sub-committee has been looking at is affordability. The sub-committee met with Carly Spross, FPAC member and marketing director at Fresh Grocer, about food pricing at large retail outlets. They discussed food pricing levers, pricing structures, geographic differences in pricing, and incentive programs. Amanda Wagner and Emily Gunther informed the council that an undergraduate research project on large retail food pricing will take place over the summer through the Mayor's internship program. Bob Pierson and D.L. Wormley suggested including farmers' markets and public markets. Amanda will have data to share in the fall. The sub-committee also plans to continue exploring opportunities around their recommendation to better align the public transportation system with food access.

The third hunger related issue the sub-committee has continued to discuss is food waste. Carey stated there are about 700 food pantries in Philadelphia and this month the state did not fund food pantries, which will mean pantries won't be able to supply enough food to meet the demand. She continued that there is a need to redistribute food to pantries and divert it from the waste stream, especially when SNAP benefits are reduced or eliminated and people become more dependant on pantries. Members offered some suggestions on resources. Marilyn Anthony mentioned Doug Rauch, former president of Trader Joe's, who created a program to help solve hunger by redistributing food waste at supermarkets. Nic Esposito mentioned the Free Market in Seattle. Karl Ingram mentioned the Adams County Food Policy Council organizes a gleaning program.

Additional conversation revolved around the ban on feeding homeless populations in City parks, poverty, and cooking education.

- ACTION TAKEN: The council adopted the policy recommendations as it was presented.
- ACTION REQUIRED: Follow-up: retail food pricing study; opportunities around aligning the public transportation system and food access.

c. Vacant Land Sub-committee

Amy Laura Cahn presented for the sub-committee. The sub-committee recommendations for the White Paper are the same as those approved for Greenworks, but a document did not come together yet. The Front Door Policy was discussed. Amy Laura expressed that FPAC may have an important role to play in the implementation process. She suggested that FPAC convene a stakeholder meeting with PRA. Question was raised about FPAC's role in a matter such as this and how the council should get involved with the Front Door Policy. Joan asked the sub-committee to prepare one paragraph on the intention of the proposed stakeholder meeting. Material will circulate through email.

- ACTION REQUIRED: Follow-up: proposed stakeholder meeting regarding Front Door Policy; final recommendations for White Paper.

2. Report back - Governance and Membership Sub-committee

Amy Laura Cahn presented for the sub-committee. The sub-committee has acknowledged a need for a large-scale public engagement meeting and identified some planning steps. Amy Laura, Lisa Mosca, and D.L. Wormley will explore the next steps, including setting a date, identifying goals and ways to make it interactive.

The sub-committee is also working on proposals for a Co-chair and leadership structure, a membership survey, and new membership recruitment.

E. STAFF COMMUNICATION

The staff solicited advice on what components to include on the website, which is currently under construction. Visual mapping was suggested. Cleveland's website was referenced as a good example.

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amanda Wagner announced a Get Healthy Philly event will take place on June 15th at 10am at the United Way. Mary Horstmann announced the Free Meals for Kids program will launch on June 18th and run to August 31st. Nicky Uy announced the next Night Market will take place on June 28th from 6-10pm.

G. DETAILS OF NEXT MEETING: TBD

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Submitted by:

Sasha Swayze Dews, FPAC Coordinator
sasha.dews@phila.gov

¹ A quorum consists of 51% FPAC voting members in attendance. Ex-officio members do not vote on action items and their attendance does not count towards meeting a quorum (Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council Bylaw, adopted April 10, 2012). Currently there are 22 appointed members.