



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

August 6th, 2014

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

One Parkway Building, 1515 Arch St., Room 18-029
Philadelphia, PA

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	PAGE
A. WELCOME	Called to order at 3:10 p.m.	2
PART 1: BUSINESS/PROCESS		
B. INTRODUCTIONS	Quorum Met	2
C. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES		
1. Local Food Procurement	Discussed	3
2. Vacant Land	Discussed	3-4
3. Zero Waste	Discussed	4
4. Governance and Membership	Discussed	4
5. Anti-Hunger	Discussed	5
6. Communications and Outreach	Discussed	5
	Action Item: Vote on June Minutes	
D. VOTING ITEMS		
• June Minutes	Approved	5
PART 2: STRATEGY/ISSUES		
E. FPAC LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING		6-7
F. OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS		7
G. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned	7

A. WELCOME

Co-chairs Diane Cornman-Levy and Sarah Wu called the general meeting of the Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC) to order at 3:10pm. Meeting attendees went around the table and introduced themselves and their affiliations.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Members Present

Patricia Blakely	Esteban Kelly	Viery Ricketts-Thomas
Diane Cornman-Levy (Co-Chair)	Linda Knapp	Fabricio Rodriguez
Nic Esposito	Leanne Krueger-Brankey	Nicky Uy
Bryan Fenstermaker	Tia McDonald	Julie Zaebst
Alison Hastings	Anthony Ortiz	
	Bob Pierson	

Ex-officio Members Present

Sarah Wu, Mayor’s Office of Sustainability (Co-chair)
Amanda Wagner

Members Absent

Amy Laura Cahn	Jessica McAtamney	Barbara Schneider
Laquanda Dobson	Greg McKinley	Steveanna Wynn
Ann Karlen	Lisa Mosca	
Shiriki Kumanyika	Angela Perez	

Approved Nominees Present

Johnathan Deutsch
Tommy McCann

Approved Nominees Absent

Katrice Cheaton

Others Present

Courtney Anders	Liz Fitzgerald	Shannon Macika	Hector Santos
Kirtrina Baxter	Ian Hegarty	Nasir Malik	Hailey Stern
Rickie Brawer	Kayla Herbs	Adrienne Moss	Jennifer Wright
Sherrie Cohen	Nicole Hostettler	Anne Preston	
Kinnari Chandriani	Jordyn Kimelheim	Chantal Roberts	
Lee Davies	Leah Lazer	Jennifer Saigal	

FPAC Staff Present

Rachel Passman, FPAC Coordinator

C. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

A representative from each subcommittee gave a brief update.

1. Local Food Procurement

Amanda Wagner gave the subcommittee update. The subcommittee is working on understanding the food that the city purchases to determine how to increase local and sustainable food procurement within the City. The goal is to finalize a comprehensive 'map' of City food purchased to more fully grasp the procurement process, especially smaller purchase orders. At this time the subcommittee will not be able to pursue a pilot program with the Juvenile Justice Services Center due to limited capacity and timing.

FPAC, along with the Department of Public Health and Get Healthy Philly, held a healthy food vendor forum on Wednesday, July 30th, 2014. Forty people came to the forum, and about half of them were vendors. The forum outlined the new citywide nutrition standards and representatives from the Procurement Department, Finance Department, and The Office of Economic Opportunity presented information about contracting and procurement with City agencies.

Following the forum, subcommittee members suggested that a meeting or roundtable discussion with both produce vendors and the procurement department might help clear up confusion and encourage City agencies to procure more fresh, nutritious, and local produce.

Meetings are typically held on the 2nd Monday of the month. For more information or to attend a meeting, please contact chair [Amanda Wagner](#).

2. Vacant Land

Anne Preston gave the subcommittee update in place of chair Amy Laura Cahn. The subcommittee hosted three highly productive soil safety working group meetings resulting in a new set of questions moving forward. The subcommittee is working to establish soil safety guidelines for local gardeners and farmers that are useful and easy to follow. One of the challenges has been identifying safe contaminant levels. Philadelphia is a post-industrial city so there is a significant amount of contamination in much of the soil, but the working group would like to be able to encourage growers to grow in-ground where safe.

The subcommittee hopes to work with geologists and soil specialists to calculate safe contamination levels for soil in Philadelphia. Currently, two students from the University of Pennsylvania are using an XFR analyzer (a type of x-ray machine) to test for heavy metals in Philadelphia soils. They are surveying fifteen gardens in the city, and will have results from the study by the end of September. In addition, the soil safety working group is discussing potential funding opportunities for soil testing and remediation, focusing on larger sites, with the EPA. Subcommittee members are also considering mobile soil testing as an educational and outreach tool for neighborhood gardeners and farmers.

The Land Bank has officially launched, although it will be a few months until it is operational. The FPAC is committed to remaining involved as the Land Bank planning moves forward to promote

gardening and farming as a viable and productive land use, and to ensure that land acquisition and access is transparent and diversified.

The subcommittee generally meets on the third Monday of every month from 3:30pm to 5pm, alternating between in-person meetings and conference calls. If you are interested in participating, please contact chair [Amy Laura Cahn](#).

3. Zero Waste

Linda Knapp gave the subcommittee update. The Zero Waste subcommittee hosted a lunch and learn event on July 11th, 2014 in the Penn State Center with about twenty people in attendance. The town hall forum brought together several agencies and organizations to discuss ways to reduce food waste entering landfills, especially for the food service industry. The speakers that were in attendance are as follows:

- Lisa Hodeai, Deputy Director of Food Acquisition, Philabundance
- Nan Feyler, Philadelphia Department of Public Health
- Luke Wolfgang, Food Recovery Challenge, EPA
- Ian Hegarty, Recycling Office, Philadelphia Streets Department

The event was “bring your own lunch”, and Bennett Compost provided an in-kind service donation to haul food scraps from the event. Overall the event was successful thanks to the people and agencies involved, and resulted in a productive conversation about food waste, recovery, health, and safety.

In addition to the town hall, the subcommittee, along with University of Pennsylvania graduate student John Christopher, has been continuing to work on the white paper report. The report and research is still in progress, but a draft report is expected by the end of August. Within that report, there will be specific recommendations for the City’s approach to ‘zero waste’. The report will focus mostly on commercial entities, although there may be some information about reducing residential waste. The report will highlight the need for a more involved approach to organic waste to reduce the quantity that finds its way to the landfill.

If you are interested in learning more about this subcommittee, please contact chair [Linda Knapp](#).

4. Governance and Membership

Alison Hastings gave the subcommittee update. The subcommittee donated its summer meeting time to a working group on FPAC’s long term strategic planning. The subcommittee hopes to reach 100 nominations by October, when members review all nominated individuals and select a new slate of recommended members. FPAC seeks to increase its representation from communities throughout the city, as well recruit individuals who are knowledgeable and skilled in workforce development. Several inaugural members are nearing the end of their term (December 2014). These members will have the option to renew or bow out.

Meetings are typically held on the 1st Monday of every month. There will be no meeting in September, so the next meeting will be in October. To nominate someone for FPAC, forms can be

found online at www.phillyfpac.org. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact chair [Alison Hastings](#).

5. Anti-Hunger

Sarah Wu gave the update in place of chair Steveanna Wynn. The subcommittee is working on completing the toolkits. Based on feedback from the last meeting, subcommittee members decided to complete toolkits based on council district, because there are fewer council districts than city planning districts, and the public is more familiar with council districts. Council District 1 toolkit has been submitted to the subcommittee for feedback. Once the first toolkit is finalized, the rest of the toolkits will be created. Attendees noted that locations may be missing from the toolkit. Please email any resources regarding food and hunger to fpac@phila.gov.

Anti-Hunger meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month at 3:00pm at SHARE or via conference call. For more information or to attend a meeting, please contact Chair [Steveanna Wynn](#).

6. Communications and Outreach

Sarah Wu gave the update for Communications and Outreach. Rachel Passman has officially taken over for Hannah as the new AmeriCorps VISTA FPAC coordinator, as well as the Communications and Outreach chair. Goals for the subcommittee include identification of new audiences. Rachel's Spanish-language skills will be useful in reaching a new audience and raising awareness about FPAC.

D. VOTING ITEMS

The June general meeting minutes were approved unanimously by present members.

E. FPAC LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING

Appointed members have held several meetings to discuss FPAC's long term strategic planning, particularly considering the upcoming mayoral transition in 2016. Members discussed strategies to support FPAC's longevity, including:

- Future housing of the Council
- Impact beyond current mayoral administration
- Outreach and education of candidates
- Public events to promote the Council's future

Future FPAC Housing

Diane Cornman-Levy introduced FPAC's need for a permanent institutional home. At the first strategic planning meeting, attendees compiled a list of seven strategic options where FPAC could be housed, along with pros and cons for each. At the next meeting, participants revisited the list and identified a first and second choice. The group's first choice is to continue to house FPAC in the Mayor's Office of Sustainability (MOS). Pros of keeping FPAC in MOS include continuity, excellent opportunity for collaboration with city government, and lasting association with the City's sustainability goals. On the other hand, there is no guarantee that MOS will become permanent. The second option is to house FPAC in the office of an ex-officio member, which has been done in the past with FPAC and Philadelphia

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. 5

Parks & Recreation. If neither works, members will return to the drawing board to come up with additional options.

FPAC's Future Impact and Participation

Bob Pierson presented an outline for FPAC's transition into the next administration. FPAC will prepare a document outlining food policy and systems issues and challenges in Philadelphia and offering recommendations that the next administration should implement. Bob outlined a "20-10-5" plan that the group will draft to share with mayoral candidates, which would include:

- **20 food related facts**, anything from success stories to major issues.
- **10 challenges** facing Philadelphia with regards to food (e.g. 20% of Philadelphians qualify for SNAP benefits, but are not participating.)
- **5 actions** that the next administration should take, including continuation of FPAC.

FPAC would release this document with an invitation to mayoral candidates to endorse. It is important to release the document sooner rather than later to facilitate the conversation and spread awareness of the issues at hand.

FPAC Public Awareness

Bryan Fenstermaker discussed possible strategies to promote awareness and ensure that future mayoral candidates will address food systems issues in Philadelphia. Key questions include:

- How do we present this information to potential candidates before the May 2015 primary?
- Could we hold a forum where each issue is addressed and presented to mayoral candidates?
- Where could a forum be held, and what would the scope of the event be?
- Do we want to have our own forum where we focus specifically on food, or join some other event?

Discussion followed, and attendees agreed to create a working group to take leadership and organize a forum. FPAC needs to build on its strengths, and collaborate with organizations, people, and the media to promote awareness. Bryan has offered to take the lead, and Jonathan Deutsch expressed interest in hosting a meeting in September. Members also decided that FPAC should develop an educational platform, so members can be trained to raise appropriate and deliberate questions wherever they go. Furthermore the Council should work on developing marketing strategies for the five recommendations in the 20-10-5 plan for the next administration.

Members raised a question regarding ex-officio political activity: how can ex-officio members or City employees get involved in these efforts? The coordinator will follow up with the Ethics Board regarding this question.

Next Steps and Summary:

- Long term strategic planning work group will meet again. If interested in attending, contact [Bob](#).
- 20-10-5 plan needs collaboration. Please e-mail [Bob](#) if you have any suggestions, anyone is welcome to participate, both the general public and appointed members.
- If you would like to get involved in the forum event planning, contact [Bryan](#). Anyone is welcome to participate as well.

G. OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members and participants announced upcoming events related to their organizations.

Sarah briefly discussed applications for funding to create a full-time FPAC staff position. FPAC applied for grants from a number of foundations, and expects to hear back sometime in late fa..

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.

Submitted by:

Rachel Passman, FPAC Coordinator

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