



**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

3:00pm - 5:00pm

SEPTA Building, 1234 Market St., 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room  
Philadelphia, PA

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
A. CALL TO ORDER	Called to order at 3:10pm	2
B. ROLL CALL	Quorum Not Met	2
C. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES		
1. Anti-Hunger	Discussed	3
2. Food & Health	Discussed	3
3. Good Food Procurement	Discussed	3-4
4. Urban Agriculture	Discussed	4
5. Workforce & Economic Development	Discussed	4
6. Zero Waste	Discussed	5
D. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SURVEY AND NOMINATIONS	Discussed	5
E. PUBLIC POLICY TO SUPPORT CO-OPS	Discussed	5
F. WATER ACCESS IN PHILADELPHIA	Discussed	5-6
G. PUBLIC COMMENT	Discussed	6
H. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourn	7



**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Co-chairs Amy Laura Cahn and Sarah Wu called the general meeting of the Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC) to order. Meeting attendees introduced themselves and their affiliations.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated a quorum was not present to conduct official business.

Members Present

Allison Blansfield	Alison Hastings	Calvin Okunoye
Amy Laura Cahn	Esteban Kelly	Julianne Schrader
Bryan Fenstermaker	Linda Knapp	Nicky Uy
Kathy Fisher	Tommy McCann	Julie Zaebst

Ex-Officio Members Present

Jennifer Aquilante  
Ash Richards  
Amanda Wagner  
Sarah Wu

Members Absent

Glenn Bergman	Donkey Dover	Herman Nyamunga
Patricia Blakely	Ann Karlen	Barbara Schneider
Katrice Cheaton	Leah Lazer	Dwayne Wharton
Diane Cornman-Levy	George Matysik	Jimmy Wilson
Stephanie Dorenbosch	Jessica McAtamney	

Others Present

Laura An	Peter Frank	Monica McCollin
Sam Applefield	Tatiana Granados	Mike McGrory
Kevin Beck	Amanda Hallock	Doris Thomas
Kelly Courts	Jenny Horn	Janet Toole
Will Curran-Groome	Sarah Horwitz	Lauren Vague
Jill Fink	Nathea Lee	Andrea Vettori
Cassandra Fitzgerald-Black	Rachel López	Kalie Wertz

FPAC Staff Present

Hannah Chatterjee, FPAC Manager  
Madeline Smith-Gibbs, FPAC Coordinator



### C. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

In lieu of the usual subcommittee updates, those present participated in “subcommittee speed dating.” Over the course of three rounds, attendees met with subcommittee chairs for small group discussion of subcommittee updates.

#### 1. Anti-Hunger

Anti-Hunger Co-Chair Monica McCollin lead the subcommittee updates. Anti-Hunger is working with the Food Access Collaborative on a Food Recovery Project during the Democratic National Convention (DNC). The two groups are coordinating efforts to ensure that leftover food from DNC events and local restaurants does not go to waste.

Philly Food Finder ([www.phillyfoodfinder.org](http://www.phillyfoodfinder.org)) was recognized this week as an outstanding nominee in the Distinguished Group Service Project category for the Mayor’s Award for Distinguished National Service.

The speed dating conversation included a conversation about FPAC’s role in policymaking versus advocacy. FPAC member Julie Zaebst suggested focusing on how state and federal level policies are implemented at the City level.

The subcommittee meets on the fourth Monday of the month from 2:30pm to 3:30pm at SHARE. For more information or to attend a meeting, please contact Co-Chairs [Steveanna Wynn](#), [Monica McCollin](#), and [Andy Marin](#).

#### 2. Food & Health

Food & Health Co-Chair Kelly Courts lead the subcommittee update for the new Food & Health Subcommittee. The subcommittee updated its mission and vision statements based on feedback from the March Executive Session and hosted two lively debates about the proposed soda tax. Potential issue areas for the subcommittee include water access, predatory marketing of unhealthy foods, the Philly Town Hall on Healthy Food Access, and unhealthy bake sales in schools.

For more information or to attend a meeting, contact Co-Chairs [Kelly Courts](#) and [Dwayne Wharton](#).

#### 3. Good Food Procurement

Good Food Procurement Subcommittee chair Amanda Wagner gave the subcommittee update. Good Food Procurement is finalizing a list of “good food caterers,” which were solicited via survey and selected based on criteria in four value areas: healthy, sustainable, local, and fair. The list will be shared with city employees, on the FPAC website, and more broadly.



The subcommittee identified recommendations for green procurement policy, testified at a March hearing before City Council, and is planning a conversation with the Procurement Department and the Legislative Office.

Good Food Procurement is grateful for the support of two students from Villanova School of Law, who are partnering with the subcommittee to provide legal research to support policy recommendations and outreach materials related to fair labor standards.

The subcommittee meets on certain Thursdays from 3:00pm to 4:30pm. If you are interested in participating, please contact Chair [Amanda Wagner](#).

#### 4. Urban Agriculture

Co-Chair Ash Richards gave the subcommittee update. The subcommittee's [Urban Agriculture Open House](#) on February 8<sup>th</sup> drew more than 100 participants and generated a lot of valuable feedback and ideas. Urban Agriculture is looking forward to keeping the momentum up with this expanded group of advocates, urban agriculture enthusiasts, gardeners and growers, city officials, and FPAC representatives.

The subcommittee recently coordinated with other Pennsylvania food policy councils to support Penn State Extension, which was threatened with elimination during the state's budget process this year. Funding for the program was maintained.

The subcommittee meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month from at times alternating between work hours and evening hours. If you are interested in participating, please contact Co-Chairs [Nancy Kohn](#) and [Ash Richards](#).

#### 5. Workforce & Economic Development

Subcommittee Chair Calvin Okunoye gave the update. Workforce & Economic Development dedicated its first meeting to drafting a mission statement:

*The Workforce & Economic Development Subcommittee guides the City of Philadelphia in developing and implementing policies and practices to build a stronger regional economy and just food system in which workers along the entire food chain enjoy quality jobs that provide economic stability and upward mobility.*

The subcommittee's speed dating conversation included comments about educating workers about paid sick days and wage theft, ensuring that job training programs are appropriate to available jobs, and hosting a public education forum for restaurant workers about finding an apartment without proof of salary.

Workforce & Economic Development will meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 4:00pm to 5:00pm. Contact Chair [Calvin Okunoye](#) if you are interested in participating.



## 6. Zero Waste

Zero Waste Subcommittee chair Linda Knapp gave the subcommittee update. Zero Waste is partnering with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) and Philabundance on a pilot program to divert uneaten meals from PPR summer meals sites to other meal providers. The subcommittee hopes this project will reduce the amount of organic waste Philadelphia sends to the landfill while providing nourishment to food insecure residents. The pilot will take place in lower northeast Philadelphia.

If you are interested in participating in the Zero Waste subcommittee, please contact Chair [Linda Knapp](#).

## **D. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SURVEY AND NOMINATIONS**

Governance & Membership Chair Bryan Fenstermaker invited FPAC members and supporters to complete the [Annual Membership Survey](#), which is aimed at understanding who participates in FPAC and identifying gaps in our membership. The annual survey is required for all appointed members, but is also open to ex-officio members and subcommittee participants. Governance & Membership estimates that it will take 10-15 minutes to complete. Survey responses are confidential and will only be shared in the aggregate.

At the June 2016 general meeting, Governance & Membership will present a slate of member nominations for vote by FPAC members. You may nominate yourself or someone else via [FPAC's website](#).

## **E. PUBLIC POLICY TO SUPPORT CO-OPS**

Peter Frank, executive director of the Philadelphia Area Cooperative Alliance, gave a presentation on the cooperative sector and the potential of co-op development within the food system. FPAC has historically drawn leadership from board members, managers, and consumer-members of food cooperatives in Philadelphia, but PACA is also involved in advocating for worker co-op development and other sustainable business models.

Peter explained that a cooperative is “an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.” Philadelphia is home to a diverse array of cooperatives, ranging from consumer food cooperatives such as Mariposa and Wavers Way, to credit unions, to energy cooperatives. Consumer co-ops, worker co-ops, and purchasing co-ops are particularly relevant to the food system, and are relevant to the work of FPAC’s urban agriculture, food procurement, and anti-hunger subcommittees.

FPAC supporters interested in learning more are encouraged to attend the May 14 [Co-Up Summit](#).

## **F. WATER ACCESS IN PHILADELPHIA**

Rachel López, director of the Community Lawyering Clinic, and Cassandra Fitzgerald-Black, student attorney at the Clinic, presented on water access within Philadelphia homes. Rachel and Cassandra first shared stories of Philadelphia residents who had their water cut off due to their inability to prove ownership, pay water meter



installation fees, or pay delinquent bills. They outlined the consequences of not having running water in your home, which range from health issues to losing child custody to being evicted.

The barriers to water access include title issues and how the Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) accepts customers, PWD's shutoff policy, infrastructure and maintenance problems, and affordability. Philadelphia Water has about 10,000 customers in its Water Revenue Assistance Program (WRAP), which provides grants of up to \$500 on water bills to prevent shutoff for low-income customers.

The Water Rate Board, an independent rate-making body which fixes rates for water and sewer services, is currently holding hearings on PWD's proposed rate changes. The rate increases would generate \$105 million in revenue and raise bills by 12% on average.

#### **G. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Co-Chairs thanked the subcommittee chairs for following up on the March Executive Session conversation on the sugar-sweetened beverage tax. Subcommittee chairs reported a diverse range of opinions on the tax, leaving FPAC as a whole with no clear consensus.

FPAC member Tommy McCann thanked the Council on behalf of John Byrnes, director of the Penn State Center, for its recent [letter of support for the Penn State Extension](#). Funding for the extension, which was in jeopardy during the state budgeting process, has now been restored.

Kelly Courts, Co-Chair of the Food & Health Subcommittee, asked about the process for FPAC responding to an issue. There are many pathways to bring an issue before FPAC: you can raise it during public comment sessions of FPAC's monthly meetings, you can get it on the agenda by contacting Co-Chairs, FPAC members can make a motion on the floor, or a proposal can come out of a subcommittee. FPAC Co-Chair Amy Laura Cahn noted that there is no need for a consensus to be worked out before bringing an issue before FPAC members, but proposals are generally more effective if they have been review and vetted ahead of time.

Attendee Janet Toole encouraged those present to view *Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret*, a new film about the environmental impact of the food system. The film is available on Netflix and at local screenings.

Amanda Wagner, FPAC ex-officio member and chair of the Good Food Procurement Subcommittee, announced that Philadelphia Parks & Recreation's [summer afterschool meals program bid](#) has been posted. Amanda encouraged those in attendance apply or forward the bid to businesses that would be interested in applying, as well as to attend the pre-bid meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. This open, public meeting will offer more information about the program and answer questions from prospective bidders.



#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 4:58pm.

Submitted by:

Madeline Smith-Gibbs

[madeline.smith-gibbs@phila.gov](mailto:madeline.smith-gibbs@phila.gov)