



**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

December 4, 2019 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

PHS Town Hall, 100 N. 20th St.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
A. CALL TO ORDER	Called to order at 3:15PM	2
B. ROLL CALL	Quorum Not Met	2
C. CELEBRATION OF MEMBERS AT END OF 2 <sup>ND</sup> TERM	Discussed	2
D. POLICY PRIORITIES FOR MAYOR'S 2 <sup>ND</sup> TERM	Discussed	3-7
1. Urban Agriculture	Discussed	
2. Workforce & Economic Development	Discussed	
3. Zero Waste	Discussed	
4. Food & Health	Discussed	
5. Anti-Hunger	Discussed	
6. Good Food Procurement	Discussed	
E. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES	Discussed	8
F. PUBLIC COMMENT	Discussed	8
G. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourned	9



**A) CALL TO ORDER**

Co-chairs Amanda Wagner and Calvin Okunoye called the general meeting of the Philadelphia Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC) to order. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

**B) ROLL CALL**

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

Members Present (13)

Kelly Courts	George Matysik	Julianne Schrader Ortega
Jill Fink	Kamaryn Norris	Kate Scully
Kathy Fisher	Calvin Okunoye	Nicole Westrick
Linda Knapp	Bridget Palombo	Dwayne Wharton
Ben Logue		

Ex-Officio Members Present (5)

Jennifer Aquilante	Laura Crandall	Molly Riordan
Catherine Bartoli	Amanda Wagner	

Others Present (12)

Benjamin Bartley	Katherine Kremer	Natalie Walker
Amy Goldstein	Amara O'Connell	Jasper Jones
Melissa Gordon	Katie Milholin	Isis Green
Howard Bilofsky	Phyllis Snyder	Radha Pennotti

Staff Present (1)

Kristin Schwab

**C) CELEBRATIONS**

Congratulations to Urban Ag team for last night's first urban agriculture planning meeting and to Molly and the procurement subcommittee for the [Good Eats report](#).

Immense gratitude to Linda Knapp, Esteban Kelly, Gregory McKinley, and Julie Zaebst for serving FPAC for two consecutive 3-year terms!

We are looking for nominees for new FPAC members. [Nominate](#) yourself or someone else for appointment to FPAC by 12/31/19.



#### D) **POLICY PRIORITIES FOR MAYOR'S 2ND TERM**

Co-chairs Amanda and Calvin introduced the context. In June, FPAC decided to initiate a smaller meeting with the Mayor. After meeting with his policy staff, it was decided we would craft 2-3 policy priorities. In the same time, Samantha Porter was hired as the Deputy Director of Policy and Strategic Initiative Office of the Mayor. In addition to economic development work, she is responsible for food policy work. For the last few months, Samantha has been initiating a conversation with city staff about food policy; this group is referred to as the City Food Policy Strategy working group; our FPAC manager is part of that group. We have an opportunity to bring our priorities to that group tomorrow. The goal of the City Food Policy Strategy working group is to identify one or a few top goals that all participants share and are willing to advocate for. Once that occurs, they will need to get feedback from the Chief of Staff's office before meeting with the mayor.

In 2018, FPAC created our [Food Policy Platform](#).

At today's meeting, subcommittees were tasked with the following tasks:

- 1) Discuss the policies your group is recommending in 2020
- 2) Provide a status update on the 2018 Food Policy Platform
- 3) Make a top recommendation for 2020. Outline why this priority is important.

On December 13th, FPAC voted to approve these recommendations, which have been shared with the City Food Strategy Working Group held by the Director and Deputy Director of Policy & Strategic Initiatives from the Office of the Mayor to help shape the Mayor's 2-3 food-related priorities for his second term.

#### **Urban Agriculture**

Commit to implementing any policy recommendations that come out of the Urban Agriculture Plan. The goal of the Plan will be to clearly define the resources, policies, processes, and programs necessary to sustain Philadelphia's rich history of urban farming for future generations. Through equitable and thoughtful public engagement, the Plan will explore creating and sustaining access to nourishing food, growing locally and supporting local urban ag businesses, community building and healing, economic development, creating equitable access to land for growers, and reducing food waste, among others.

In addition to this plan contemplating the above issues, it will also compile data about the true number of gardens existing in Philadelphia, the number of gardens that have been lost and the whys of those losses, the different types of gardens, and any correlations to development pressure throughout the City.



For this planning process to be meaningful, it needs a commitment to the implementation of any of the policy recommendations contemplated by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the supporting consultant team. The planning process will last between 12 to 18 months and culminate with a number of policy recommendations that aim to mitigate or eliminate the issues urban growers and those experiencing food insecurity face in Philadelphia.

### **Workforce+Economic Development**

Enforcement and expansion of enforcement of policies (Wage Theft, Fair Work Week, Paid Sick Leave) that affect the workforce. For the fiscal year budget, provide 1.5 million additional dollars to go into the Office of Benefits and Wage Compliance. More staff are needed for enforcement. Successful enforcement prioritizes outreach and engagement.

#### FYI

Seattle (smaller city) : about 6 million

New York: about 9 million

Current budget for the 6th largest city: \$740,000

With the additional 1.5 million dollars the office would be at about 2 million dollars which would still fall short but on the right track.

#### Staff: +\$500,000

2 additional investigators, 2 additional outreach, 1 new manager

FWW is a monster and will effect about 130,000 workers

Domestic Worker Bill of Rights will affect 16,000 workers mostly immigrants. (it is significantly more difficult to engage immigrants on these laws)

#### Regrant Program: +\$500,000

Successful enforcement prioritizes outreach. The Office of Benefits and Wage Compliance should provide a regrant program to support communities to run educational trainings. Other cities do this in addition to their own outreach and have seen a significant increase in complaints.

#### Advertisements, outreach and communications budget: + \$500,000

Translations for a single flyer is about 300\$ depending on words. Entire trainings that the office provides needs to be translated and provided online in order to reach communities in which first languages are not english who are actually more likely to experience violations.

The office needs to host events and conference in Philadelphia communities.

Community organizations do not have the resources to create the communications materials necessary to educate community members nor the staff to create them.

### **Zero-Waste**



Create city-wide strategy and coalition to address food recovery. Food recovery is a complicated issue that requires a coordinated effort from the City to help manage the logistics of identifying and moving rescued product to people who need it. Like Baltimore, Philadelphia could create a cohesive plan to help increase food recovery and feed people in Philadelphia. The City could be a leader in identifying ways to strategically redistribute food and use that food to intentionally link people who are hungry with other resources.

These goals are similar to goals already identified by FPAC and the Zero Waste+Litter Cabinet. The Zero Waste and Litter Cabinet's Zero Waste Partnership Program is currently identifying and promoting/incentivizing businesses that focus on food recovery as part of their Zero Waste Strategy. The Department of Parks and Recreation is also using the MEANS Database and Food Connect to recover food from the summer meals program in recreation centers. We can continue to build off of that work and integrate it into other large government meal providers such as the school district to make using food recovery technology be standard practice with government meal providers. Other cities such as Baltimore and Denver are also focusing on food recovery through a grant funded food recovery position funded by the NRDC. Philadelphia is also working with the NRDC and can build on this relationship and/or other funding sources to create a position that solely focuses on food recovery. The City can also work with the State Department of Agriculture to continue to streamline and clarify rules on food recovery in the commercial sector. The Zero Waste and Litter Cabinet is currently working with a Fels Fellow to analyze all health regulations to educate businesses on how to adhere to health regulations while also enacting zero waste strategies to reduce waste and food recovery could also fit into this work. With such high rates of hunger, the city could do more to recover food.

### **Food+Health**

The creation of a public/private funded program to improve access and consumption of fruits and vegetables amongst low-income and under resourced people in Philadelphia. Inspired by the [Produce Plus](#) model in D.C., a locally-funded farmers' market incentive program designed to increase access to healthy and nutritious food options for income-eligible District residents by allocating \$20 per week to be used at Farmers' Markets, with the ultimate goal of improving public health and supporting the local food economy.

This effort would specifically target health care providers who to date have been engaged in disparate initiatives to address food insecurity and lack of healthy food access. This effort would pool resources, such as community benefits dollars, attract private philanthropy investment, and be in alignment with the City of Philadelphia funding priorities. In the end, when one gets to the root of food-related challenges people in Philadelphia face, this gets to the root of those issues— increasing consumer buying power for low-income people, coordinating intervention efforts,



supporting and incentivizing local growers and food retailers. Eligibility for participation in the program would be income based and the new City of Philadelphia municipal ID could serve as a means of redemption—which could help grow participation in that program as well.

### **Anti-Hunger**

A City-created comprehensive plan to address child hunger by increasing participation in federal child nutrition programs (\*see full list of programs following this recommendation). We suggest the plan include goals such as:

- Increasing participation in the national school breakfast and lunch program at targeted schools that underutilize these programs;
- Expanding availability of after-school snack and supper programs and a full calendar of school break meals (including days closed, winter break, spring break and summer);
- Addressing the decline in summer meals and inequities in summer meal locations;
- Ensuring that early childhood programs help connect eligible children to WIC and fully utilize the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP);
- Exploring opportunities to improve the quality and appeal of the foods provided in the child nutrition programs, which could help with promotion and expansion.

Poverty and hunger are inextricably linked. As the poorest large city in America, Philadelphia not only has an overall poverty rate of nearly 25 percent, but more than one in three children facing poverty as a challenge to their future. While poverty is a primary cause of hunger, not every person living in poverty faces chronic hunger. This is because a variety of supports and services exist, with child nutrition programs a key means of alleviating the strain of chronic hunger.

The City is in a unique position to develop and lead the implementation of a comprehensive plan as it can convene and lead multiple stakeholders. The City can directly forward efforts across city departments, build upon and leverage existing relationships with partner organizations, such as the School District of Philadelphia and Philadelphia Housing Authority, and engage outside agencies and experts that can lend support. In fact, the Mayor's Office of Education is already working to convene partners through a Summer/School Break Meals Collaborative.

A comprehensive plan to increase participation in child nutrition programs makes sense for many reasons. It would:

- Tap into 100 percent federally-funded meals, snacks, and nutrition supports (such as formula through the WIC program);
- Support signature efforts of the Mayor's first term that are helping Philadelphia's children to grow and thrive, such as Community Schools, PHLpreK, and Rebuild. These successful and growing efforts can become even more robust in building communities by providing reliable access to nutritious meals for children year-round;



- Help to stabilize Philadelphia families who need support. While nutrition programs do not directly improve family income to decrease poverty, providing meals to children in need can help their families direct limited resources to other basic needs;
- Invest in future generations of Philadelphians. Ensuring access to nutritious meals will promote children’s long-term success and is supported by long-standing research that demonstrates the importance of child nutrition for children’s health and well-being;
- Lend itself to targeting areas that are most in need and currently lag behind in program participation (PDE and the school district can provide data for individual schools, summer meals sites, etc.);
- Complement efforts of City Council’s Special Committee on Poverty Prevention and Reduction;
- Potentially lead to 1) economies of scale that can allow for investment in improving the quality of meals, and, 2) growth in food service training and job opportunities.

\*Child nutrition programs include: School Breakfast Program (SBP); National School Lunch Program (NSLP); Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP); Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); Summer Nutrition Programs (including SFSP and SSO).

### **Good Food Procurement**

The subcommittee requests annual public reporting of City departments’ food purchases and the extent to which they meet healthy, sustainable, fair, and local criteria. This may include an audit of food purchases to be shared publicly, and which the public can comment on to improve food sourcing and food service.

As an incentive to encourage good food purchasing, the subcommittee requests an expansion of the “local bonus” given to LBEs when submitting a bid or proposal for a City contract, applying it to other good food values: health, fairness, sustainability. For example, if a business is a “fair business” by the standards of the Philadelphia Good Food Caterer Guide, it is eligible to get a bonus in its bid or proposal score.

Good Food Procurement shares foundational principles with other Mayoral priorities: wealth creation, sustainability, and government transparency and efficiency. We request these smaller policy changes in lieu of a large Good Food Purchasing Policy as we think it maximizes the achievability for departments.



E) Subcommittee Updates

1) *Anti-Hunger*

The Anti-Hunger meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 3:00pm to 4:30pm at The Coalition Against Hunger (123 Chestnut St. Suite 401, entrance on 2nd St.).

If you are interested in joining the subcommittee or attending a meeting, please get in touch with Chairs [Amy Goldstein](#) and [Kathy Fisher](#). Check out our [Google Group](#) to stay up-to-date on our work!

2) *Food & Health*

The Food & Health Subcommittee seeks to bring diverse voices and leadership to its work.

Meeting times and locations vary. If you would like more information about the Food & Health Subcommittee, please contact Chair [Dwayne Wharton](#).

3) *Good Food Procurement*

The Good Food Procurement subcommittee wrapped up its regular meetings in 2018, but will continue to meet on an ad-hoc basis as relevant issues and policies arise, including on recommendations in the [Good Eats report](#). If you are interested in being notified about the next meeting, please get in touch with Co-chairs [Molly Riordan](#) and [Catherine Bartoli](#).

4) *Workforce & Economic Development*

If you are interested in joining the subcommittee or attending a meeting, please get in touch with Co-chairs Calvin Okunoye, Kamaryn Norris and Ben Logue at [fpacworkforce@gmail.com](mailto:fpacworkforce@gmail.com).

5) *Urban Agriculture*

The subcommittee meets on the last Wednesday of every month from 3:30pm to 5pm. For more information or to attend a meeting, please contact [Ebony Griffin](#) and [Ash Richards](#)

6) *Zero Waste*

If you would like more information about the Zero Waste subcommittee, please contact chair [Kate Scully](#).

F) **Public Comment**

1) Kathy Fischer shared that the USDA is putting out a new rule for SNAP tomorrow. Affects able-bodied adults without children and limits their ability to get SNAP to 3 months for 3 years. In effect April 1. Philadelphia has been able to wave it historically. May no longer be able to. People get other exemptions, but will involve training providers. Hopefully a judge does an injunction. [Sign-up to receive Advocacy Alerts](#) to stay informed on what actions you can take to help fight hunger! Advocacy Alerts include ways to get involved and may ask you to sign-on to a letter or call your representative to ensure that those who face hunger have a voice in federal and state policy. By signing up you will receive Advocacy Alerts from the Coalition's Policy Director and FPAC member Kathy Fisher.

2) Institution for Justice: Jasper Jones shared that people have until December 6<sup>th</sup> to apply for the restitution program



PHILADELPHIA  
**FOOD POLICY**  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

G) **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5pm.

Submitted by:

Kristin Schwab, FPAC Interim Manager

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