

Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 8, 2023 - 5:30 pm
Webber Community Center, Multipurpose Room, 4400 Dupont Ave. N

Members Present: Jenny Breen (Co-Chair), Marcus Kar (Co-Chair), Jason Brisson, Matt Croaston, Kevin Ellis, Brandon Griffin, Rebecca Gross, Kim Havey, Kristen Klingler, Will Lucker, James Miller, Tricia Nelson, DeVon Nolen, Angela Williams, Ed Eiffler Jaramillo, and Anne Stahn (Quorum: 13)

Members Absent: Kevalin Aulandez, Keely Cervantes, Andrea Inouye, Danielle Isaacson, Elizabeth Mullen, Helen Schnoes, Kirsten Weigle, and Julie Wong

Staff : Alison Babb, Patty Bowler, Grace Rude, Tong Thao, Moses Viveros, Brenna Ruegg

Call To Order

1. Roll Call.

Quorum Present

2. Adoption of the agenda.

Motion by Marcus with an amendment:

I move to adopt the agenda with the following changes: postpone the “Review of Food Council action options” item and add an item regarding support for the Minneapolis Health Department’s REACH grant.

Seconded by Will Lucker.

Action Taken: Adopted as Amended

3. Acceptance of minutes

Motioned by Will Lucker and Seconded by Angela Williams.

[Feb 8, 2023 Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council](#)

Action Taken: Accepted

Discussion

4. Icebreaker Activity

Food Council members and guests were asked to share a food story with a pair.

Action Taken: No action taken

5. Land Use Rezoning Study updates

1. Vote on the Food Council letter regarding supporting season extension in the zoning code

The City is updating its zoning rules to comply with state law and match the Minneapolis 2040 development guidelines already approved by the City Council. This includes adoption of inclusionary zoning, elimination of single-family exclusive zoning, new built form districts and regulations, and elimination of minimum parking requirements.

The Land Use Rezoning Study is the next step, aligning the zoning code with the comprehensive plan's 12 Future Land Use categories. This amendment also seeks to make the zoning ordinance easier to use and administer, with attention paid to its structure for greater user-friendliness.

The City is seeking feedback on the proposed changes to the code. The Land Use Rezoning Study draft recommendations are available for public review and feedback until March 26, 2023.

Referencing the motion made during the February Food Council meeting where the Food Council moved for the Homegrown Food Council Co-chairs Marcus Kar and Jenny Breen to draft and submit on the Food Council's behalf a letter to:

1. highlight the importance of changing the zoning code to better support season extension in our city
2. encourage CPED to incorporate the changes as part of the current land use rezoning study.

The finalized letter was shared with all present members of the Food Council. Following brief discussion by members, Kevin Ellis made the following motion:
I move to approve the recommendations regarding adjustments to the draft zoning code to support urban agriculture season extension structures and to submit the letter for consideration to the Mayor and City Council.

Seconded by Will Lucker. The motion was approved with 15 yays and 1 abstention.

The Food Council also express interest in wanting the zoning code to address food apartheid in Minneapolis. There was discussion about the need to preserve and improve food access to address food apartheid in Minneapolis. Food Council Member Angela Williams made the following motion:

I move to request a review of Minneapolis Zoning policies to encourage a greater number of food access points in order to combat ongoing food apartheid being experienced by historically excluded communities.

Seconded by Food Council Co-chair Marcus Kar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Action Taken: Approved

6. New Business: Food Council support of the Minneapolis Health Department's REACH grant application

Food Council Member Kristen Klinger announced that the Minneapolis Health Department's Health Living Division is applying for the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant. The grant duration is 5 years, starting in September. The Healthy Living team is working to identify potential partners for this grant and letters of support that will guide the work of the REACH grant for their work unit. The Health Living team is interested in working together with the Food Council serving as the community coalition for the nutrition-oriented strategies. The Healthy Living team asks if the Food Council co-chairs would be willing to write an informal letter of support for them for the REACH grant.

Motion by Brandon Griffin:

I move for Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Co-Chairs Marcus Kar and Jenny Breen to submit a letter of support for the Minneapolis Health Department's REACH (Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health) grant proposal, confirming that the Food Council will serve as the community coalition for the nutrition strategies of the grant.

Seconded by Angela Williams. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Review of Food Council action options

Action Taken: Postponed to Apr 12, 2023

8. Homegrown Communications updates

Moses Viveros, Homegrown Staff, gave an update about the Homegrown newsletter and social media pages. Homegrown staff have added two new sections to the monthly Homegrown Newsletter. The new Spotlight section on the newsletter will be used to highlight exciting news, events, happenings, and updates that are relevant to the Homegrown community, and the Food for Thought section will showcase interesting stories, events, and happenings.

All Food Council members are welcome to send any news content that they would like to be feature on the Homegrown newsletter or Minneapolis Health Department social media page to Moses or the Homegrown email (Homegrown@minneapolismn.gov).

Action Taken: No action taken

Presentation

9. Wasted Food presentation – Kellie Kish, Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling; Carolyn Collopy, Hennepin County Energy & Environment

Kellie Kish from Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling gave a presentation about the organic recycling program in Minneapolis. There is no added cost for non-multifamily residential homes to participate in the Minneapolis organic recycling program. So far, approximately, 52.33% of customers or 56,400 households have signed up for the program. There are also 20 residential drop-offs sites. If you are interested to learn more, please contact Kellie Kish, the Recycling Coordinator at kellie.kish@minneapolismn.gov.

Carolyn Collopy from Hennepin County Energy & Environment gave a presentation about what the County has been working on regarding food waste. Carolyn mentioned that to more effectively support the County's efforts to reduce food waste, the County is in the process of hiring a Food Waste Prevention Specialist who will focus solely on this work.

Although multi-family residences are not included in Ordinance 13, Carolyn noted that the county does have grants that can help interested multi-family residence to start participating in organic recycling. If you are interested to learn more about Hennepin County's work and resources relating to Food Waste, please contact Carolyn Collopy.

Alison Babb, Homegrown Program Manager, announced that she and Food Council member DeVon Nolen presented the Minneapolis Food Vision to the Public Health and Safety Committee and the meeting is recorded and can be view on the City's YouTube page.

Alison wanted to thank Food Council member DeVon Nolen, Food Council member Elizabeth Mullen, and Food Council Co-chair Marcus Kar for attending the issue briefing with the PHS Council Members. Also, thank you to everyone else for showing up for the PHS meeting.

Margaret (Maggi) Adamek announced that the following Food Council Members have volunteered to be co-chairs of their small workgroup:

1. Kevin Ellis & Will Lucker – Urban Agriculture
2. Angela Williams – Local Food Procurement
3. Jenny Breen – Food Skills

Maggi then facilitated group work to identify some actions step for the Food Waste strategy. The goal is to use this as a pilot for Food Council members to become more familiar to what the process for their workgroup may look like.

Maggi also reminded the Food Council of the action identifying selection criteria that they made at the 2023 February Food Council meeting:

- Achievable with existing or accessible resources
- Advances equity
- Partners available to participate and lead
- Addresses an identified need

- Results in measurable, productive outcomes/impacts
- Ambitious

The present Food Council members were randomly separated into 3 groups of 6 members and a Homegrown staff was assigned to each group. Following discussion about a preselected menu of actions, each group chose 3 actions for the two top Minneapolis Food Vision strategies in the Wasted Food priority area. Homegrown staff entered in the group's final decision regard the actions that they are interested in into a Menti poll.

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Action Taken: Received and filed

Announcements

10. Food Council member and community member announcements if time permits

Kellie Kish announced that the 2023 Garden Tool swap will happen on May 13th from 9 a.m. to noon.

Action Taken: No action taken

Adjournment