

## Seattle – King County Acting Food Policy Council Meeting Notes, April 20, 2007

1. Introductions, in attendance: Fe Arreola, Steve Bauck, Trudy Bialic, Branden Born, Mary Embleton, Leah Herz, Kelly Horton, Sylvia Kantor, Jen Lamson, Erin MacDougall, Pablo Monsivias, Tammy Morales, Linda Nageotte, Laura Raymond

Guests: Lish Whitson, Carl Woestwin, Ann Bickle, Richard Gelb, Kathy Crehan, Kim Emerson, Steve Hanai, Karen Luchen, Phyllis Schulman, Mark Musick, Karen May, Amy Parente, Jerry Degreik, Karen Wolf, Stella Chow

Staff: Jen Naas

2. Agenda overview
3. Tammy's presentation
  - o What a food system is – examples of systems
  - o Idea of what an FPC is about
  - o Agriculture, environment, etc.
  - o FPCs partner with government for best leverage
4. Carl Woestwin's presentation for the City IDT
  - o City IDT began in 2005
  - o Many different departments represented (OSE, parks, Human services, DPD)
  - o Come together through staff interest, without Mayoral mandate
  - o Carl gave background on why he became involved – SPU worked with Food Lifeline on waste prevention under EPA grant. Have increased funding for equipment at FLL, now beginning to work with King County and NW harvest.
  - o SPU looking beyond emergency system at other types of opportunities for food recovery
  - o Lish from DPD – Green factor, enhancing landscaping in commercial areas. Provide credits for onsite gardening in mixed use areas
  - o Green factor is not specifically for food, but serves as a connector to food policy, an opportunity to blend with city policies
  - o IDT accomplishments
    - Share info about departmental initiatives with each other
    - Trying to make connections between departments, leverage funding
    - Look at how food fits into larger agendas
    - Internal education and white paper
    - Outreach PowerPoint with growth management sub cabinet, urban sustainability advisory, environment and emergency preparedness
    - Collaborate on Luce fellowship, farm bill, Kellogg foundation grant
    - Goal for today is get comments on draft Seattle food action plan
5. Pablo's presentation: how food is the lens to discuss many different types of issues facing cities
  - o Poverty, obesity aligned
  - o Environment – climate change
  - o Economy – food spending
  - o What is food policy
  - o Examples of other FPCs and a summary of what they address in the food system

- The AFPC has input from both governments sitting on the council
- Mission of the AFPC
- Copy of PowerPoint for all
- 6. Discussion
  - Shared priorities are the opportunities
    - What resonated?
      - reminded of the history of home-growing in the area (victory gardens)
      - Home growing for need for emergency preparedness
      - Good to take a step back and be more comprehensive, which government staffers don't always do well
      - Seattle Tilth classes open up peoples' minds to different things
  - Perhaps find projects that we could work together on, to be more effective and the need for an FPC
    - One idea for the "it" – something around climate change
    - Kellogg project grant – King County \$500,000 grant for two year planning project to integrate food system with health living and eating. Would like to put together an action plan for the food system, improving health and enhancing physical activities
    - King County – preservation of farmland is important
    - 100 mile Thanksgiving – promote the idea of what the local products are
    - partner with restaurants to be like the 25 for \$25 but in terms of local products
    - interest in global climate change idea is hard, but emergency preparedness is a very concrete idea
    - Linking agriculture and emergency preparedness
    - Have enough land, making land attractive and affordable (co-farming) easements, development on lesser-grade soils
    - Create political will for preservation, buy local, etc. through linking these two projects
    - OSE – community mobilization effort – web, media, grassroots engagement, etc. AFPC could be a part of this to help add the food system voice to the OSE work – community based organizations to be an ambassador to city to decrease carbon footprint
    - Edible landscapes and being able to push the food system idea in everyday work
    - Summary of KC staff efforts – KC staff has met a few times to decide how to work together, in process of identifying their own work and drafting a charter to start in IDT, with many different departments (going to get emergency preparedness on board) will try to relate to climate change, health and preservation of agricultural land. Wetland mitigation is important to show the conflicts between the groups. Example of city of Redmond is going to develop a farm with assisted living with wetland mitigation – keep in mind the challenges between competing interests
    - Issues with chronic diseases, particularly with child obesity. Not only getting healthier food into peoples' lives but solve multiple issues at the same time,

increase access for all levels of families, and get the farming communities to talk to emergency preparedness groups

- Which overlay is best to get to success? The climate change overlay is this the best way to look at all the issues
- Food is the system that has been missing - food can be the way to look at the other issues

#### 7. Next steps

- Many groups are working together without any formal mandate
- Is there enough support for to show support for each other and work toward a formal recognition
  - City has two different ways: advisory group with less autonomy or be an advocacy group – maybe the advisory group might not be the best role
  - It's like getting a new master, making for more work and another layer to deal with (for government)
- Collaboration with UW and WSU is another way to show the importance of this work
- How to get traction without legitimacy? Suggested an FPC could slip into the background if not done through government
- Would be beneficial to see it formalized and institutionalized – how to get political leaders to notice?
  - Two pronged approach – recognition and also with work (joint project)
- People care about food systems, next steps needs to hone the idea and message a bit more – quick wins, what questions can an FPC answer – form of a strategic plan
- Need input on city strategic plan to dig into the most pressing and prevalent issues
- City staff might be hesitant due to their jobs and roles
- FPC would not supplant all work done by city and/or county
  - City and county people are generally not worried about being replaced
  - Advisory would be politically appointed body, which has it's own issues for autonomy

#### 8. Recap

- City has a framework plan, they would like feedback... this is city focused work. AFPC could help this go beyond
- County is a few steps behind, but getting toward that
- Both see FPC as important but does not have enough traction for the movement
- AFPC needs to be more visible about mayor's agenda priorities
- Early agreement is to continue to talk was suggested
- We need a project to show how to add value
- KC Exec is thinking about food – both mitigation and adaptation is already in climate change
- Question about all cities in the county and how to make this connection, also would be positive to get someone from larger food industry
- Seattle is mass housing and mass feeding (EFS 6), this is where the emergency preparedness sits, so food fits well into this. Think about what other connections exist? Example of human services coalition to talk about the role of an FPC, so get the FPC inserted into other types of groups, linking to those groups to get this to be a more and larger effort

- Suggestion to keep a food – celebratory event, an example could be “Eating through an emergency”

Wrap up- continue our work, have conversations with city and county staff, formulate a clear and precise agenda and articulate this to officials, there is support for this and we need to find the common thread and find a way to link together for broader support