

Seattle – King County Acting Food Policy Council Meeting Notes, September 15, 2006

1. Introductions, in attendance: Sylvia Kantor, Branden Born, Fe Arreola, Erin MacDougall, Steve Bauck, Pablo Monsivais, Tammy Morales, Jen Lamson

Guests: Kelly Horton (Food Policy Consultant), Jamillah Jordan (Emerson Hunger Fellow)
Staff: Jen Naas

Short presentation by Jamillah about the Emerson Hunger Fellowship

- Emerson Hunger fellows work on local and national hunger issues
- Jamillah will be at the Fremont Public Association for six months, then will spend six months in DC working on national hunger issues
- At FPA, work will deal with different issues: food stamps, hunger, access
- Directly involved with FPA's food resource management program – this program is in place to develop relationship between hunger, race and food access
- Many different issues, focus on access or lack thereof and find different ways to help deal with lack of access
- Jamillah is interested in understanding the racial component of access
- Wants to develop a hunger and food source map
- Project also to compare the availability and pricing of items (about 20 different grocery items)
- Finally involves a presentation to the community of work and recommendations

Short discussion about Boston projects that Kelly worked on, projects which included mapping hunger and working with FPCs (?)

- Question about linking that to FMs and CSAs
 - Seattle doing some work on this, the Hunger Fellow's work would be a good addition to things done in Seattle/KC

2. Quick review of previous meeting and decisions

3. Committee Updates:

Council Development Committee. Tammy M. presented the committee's latest work.

- CD Committee is beginning to see the closure of most of its work.
- Urges moving away from process and use the meeting time for more substantive work
 - Use SharePoint to do the process work
 - Please log on and comment on progressing work
- Ideas for future educational sessions:
 - Vikki Sontag give a presentation on the final findings of the multiplier study
 - Homeless organizers come to talk about different constituencies with access issues, one example is the Millionaires Club
 - Amy Soloman from Bullet – confirmed for the November meeting. Need to clarify the format of the meeting. Main function is to understand funding issues and

opportunities from such foundations, how these organizations can fill the role of funder for food systems work.

- Idea to have a couple of different funders at November AFPC meeting to get perspectives. Question if the AFPC is giving a presentation to educate the Bullet foundation and others on the AFPC? Suggested that the point is to understand what we can get from funders and the best way to approach and educate them.
- Suggested that the November meeting is not about inviting these groups for a pitch, but for education of the AFPC.
- Suggested to send them the original request for support? This might give them an idea of the meaning of the AFPC
- Suggested that it is important for these groups/funders to understand what the AFPC is about.
- Suggested that the AFPC talk about why each person is interested in being involved and their work related to food systems. Get to know the council and their interests to help explain the AFPC as a whole.
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- Mary will be at Philanthropy NW meeting representing the AFPC.
- The Philanthropy NW meeting will have a briefing report to members (before or after the meeting?). The AFPC could suggest a couple of questions for the report to ask what funders would be interested in funding. Amy is willing to be a liaison for this.
- Education session: other ideas
- Three sessions on low-income or underrepresented groups. Thomas Forster counts as low income representation.
- End period for the grant is February. Must have education sessions finished by then.
- Suggestion was to get someone in policy realm (FPA might be interesting because they work on a national and state level)
- Suggestion to invite someone from the mayor's task force on the ending homelessness
- Bring in someone with an issue that should include food component but currently does not. Strategic way to bring in policy oriented people. Perhaps UWKC Vince Matulionis.
- Draft operating procedures: on website
 - Ops include mission, membership rules. Please get on the site and look at this.
 - Clarify terms for AFPC - all terms are one-year ending in May. Staggered terms were a suggestion for the FPC
 - Have comments done... end process conversation and vote on it at October meeting

Strategic Planning and Resource Development Committee. Sylvia K. presented the updates for the committee

- Housing options: WSU, PSRC, Office of Sustainability were top three. Task is to explore the possibilities of using these places as physical housing.
- Need more key contacts. People who are interested but also important people in policy
- Ask document: leave it until ready to use. A good draft now to be tailored when the need arises
- Quick discussion about Jen N's meeting with Jerry DeGriek. Pitfalls of working with either city or county and using an ordinance or resolution
 - Suggested parallel paths to continue work of the AFPC as well as making contacts
 - Issue of financial aspect and where to be housed

- Discussion of not being recognized officially and how that would affect any policy recommended. Would not being official hurt chances of being heard.
- One option is to be agitators. Build a reputation and legitimacy by action
- Laura R. is working on putting together PPT to present to the Mayor's cabinet on sustainability and working with the City's IDT to bring it all together. the food system IDT is using these types of opportunities to publicize staff work and that of the AFPC. Date for presentation is November 30th
- Key issue of how to move forward: official sanction or outside agitators. Always pursued the course of housing by municipality and funding. Some support already expressed from county, and some things going on at city level. Progress is slow.
- Concern that council for council's sake is not going over well, AFPC needs to demonstrate the need for a council.
- Suggestion to continue pursuing sanction, but goals of doing actual work is something to consider moving forward. The group has been holding back registering as a group for grants in hopes of being part of a municipality. May need to rethink this in light of the need for funding.
- Suggestion of just going forward as the FPC is good for plan B, but current goal of being recognized will probably go more than a year - more of a soft timeline than originally thought. Important to recognize the division between process and project. They should be moving forward at the same time. Perhaps dissolve one of the committees to form an action committee.
- Important to remember the AFPC mission: to get an official FPC body established. The strategy is to get official sanction. In working on the climate change Op-Ed, this brings up a question of whether it is a group to raise awareness (as agitator) or just getting an FPC established. Perhaps getting a signer in the Mayor's office is not wise at this time since the Op-Ed is meant to push the Mayor's office into action.
- Suggestion is that the AFPC must do both: take action and get a sanction.
- Frustration is the time already taken with the process. What is the cutoff for getting the sanction?
- Op-Ed is being done to take action? Climate change Op-Ed is not the right tool to push the FPC into being or make the FPC relevant in the discussion
- Op-Ed is to point out that food is being ignored, and saying that some of these issues can be worked on by a body like an FPC
- Strategic planning has been about process so far, and being sure to fulfill the mandates of the CFSC grant.
- Perhaps it is important to go back to what is currently being done by AFPC, find what could put energy into as a project.
- Timing now is critical for funding, and getting request to County council. This may be a way to engage the county more. But may be late in the county's timeline.
 - What is the scale of funding for the council?
 - Minimum of \$5,000 to get through June.
 - Follow up with foundation from Erin's request?
 - AFPC needs funding, this is critical.
 - Sylvia discussed her call from King Conservation District in their interest in the AFPC. They are more interested in funding the Farm to School effort.
 - Question about funding at the state level? Not really an option.

Community Relations Committee. Pablo M presented latest committee work.

- Name change list serve completed.
 - Comment about the Network and the inclusion of the Network's list serve on the original name change email. Not everyone can join the network's list serve. Different AFPC members have had conflicting discussions about including the Network's list serve
- Changes in the website – news bits and “did you know?” (fact book). Need more help in getting news from different backgrounds or facts. Try to keep with a regional focus. Send ideas to Jen N.
 - One news items is the arrival of the Emerson Hunger Fellow.
 - Wish list and volunteer opportunities is up on website. This is a way to include people and let them contribute. On the contact information page. Please send additional volunteer opportunities to Jen N.
- Website needs work. Better introduction on the website.
 - Op-Ed links should be included on web.
 - Discussion about adding short bios to web – generally accepted to put these up.
- Draft of the Op-Ed, Climate Solutions is reviewing it
 - Goal of Op-Ed was to push to show the connection of food to climate change.
 - If decide to partner with some politician, it becomes theirs and AFPC may loose some control
 - A limit to how many times the AFPC can go to the electeds
 - Climate Solutions is reviewing and are supposed to get back to Jen L by middle of next week. Sent to Climate Solutions to see if they will partner and provide any content.
 - Who will sign? One council person with partner.
 - Suggested that we continue to segregate the work. Let the AFPC read it and have buy-in.
 - Council needs to have input and understand what is in the Op-Ed.
 - Concern over committees doing work but still including the group – maybe put a limit on duplicating efforts. Do not let the Op-Ed become a big group editing effort. AFPC should be able to provide input on content only.
 - Post on SharePoint to let everyone have a look.
 - 2nd op-ed is low income access to farmers' markets. Good to have Jamillah involved in this.

4. October visit from Mark Winne.

- Mark Winne – CFSC and technical advisor to the AFPC will be visiting on October 4, around lunch time (11:30-3pm) Jen N asked AFPC to come up with ideas how we might best use his time.
- Question him about mission and strategy – pursuing strategies at this stage
- Present what others have done
- Ask about his experience, what are the good ways to get started, what have the big discoveries been
 - need more examples
 - key reasons that these have worked in other places

- Why have things not changed in our situation?
- These are some of the same questions, we will get some of the same answers
 - This can be good to hear his thoughts again
- What do the “champions” need to hear?

5. New Business

- Farm to school update
 - Opportunity to connect with the other committee. The F2S has monthly meetings, a start on the white paper and figuring out the audience. Planning on a community meeting for the future. Mission is to be the central place for F2S issues.
 - Identify policy issues which might coordinate with FPC.
 - NCSL to have state-wide policy makers.
 - Conversation about merging F2S meetings with the AFPC meeting?
- Future meeting topics:
 - Amy Solomon (November),
 - F2S discussion after F2S steering committee talks. Might have a joint meeting
 - Luce project for 2006-07 and the FPC to oversee the projects of the Luce project,
 - Short Sharepoint Tutorial (10 minutes) for next meeting.
- Balance committees – new committees should be formed? Perhaps have CD committee come up with new committee tasks
 - Fe will switch to SPRD
- Bill Ayer’s meeting. Invitation for meeting September 27, 1:30 to 3pm.

Action items:

Jen will pass on CFS meeting info

CD Committee will talk to people about some possible speakers

Prep for Amy Solomon’s visit

Comments on operating procedures (for October vote)

Look into state funding?

AFPC website and comments for changes

Review Op-Ed

Prepare for Mark Winne’s visit

Shifting committees (CD committee task)

Identify project work

Demo of SharePoint for October

News items/factoids to Jen N.