

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

1. Introductions, in attendance: Sylvia Kantor, Branden Born, Tammy Morales, Rabbi Leah Herz, Laura Raymond, Trudy Bialic, Jen Lamson, Rosalinda G

Guests: Kelly Horton (Food Policy Consultant), Claire Dyckman, Jason
Staff: Jen Naas

2. CFSC recap

- Branden attended session on food assessments. Chicago was really well done. Done by faculty at the university. Best methodology by far.
 - Problem with Chicago was due to funding. Originally funded by Searle (pharmaceutical co). When group started recommending local, organic, etc. there was some tension between funder and faculty. This changed the project funding and eventually was an issue. Funding was pulled from project.
 - Idea is that it feels like we are advanced compared to other cities, much more important research and working with city departments (IDT)
- Laura attended the session on addressing policy barriers in local sourcing for farm to school projects. Put on by forum on Policy and Trade. Interesting to hear the barriers of these projects.
- Sylvia attended session on how to talk food systems. Lead by Mark Winne and someone from an institute out of DC.
 - Working through a grant from Kellogg to get the food system message across effectively.
 - Watched a video interviewing people to ask about food system or sustainable food system. Most people didn't know.
 - They were then given a paragraph with the concept to help inform them.
 - The idea was to find a simple way to talk about the food system via a "level one value." These are concepts that anyone can connect to such as health, fairness, prosperity. Picked up a CD which is available for free from the website.
<http://www.frameworksinstitute.org/>
- Rosalinda attended the FPC roundtable including FPCs from Canada, Montana, etc. Interesting to see how these councils had developed.
 - Little talk about labor issues and economics component. Obvious that these issues hadn't been worked into the development of the FPC from the beginning. This is a key idea.
 - Attended the diversity and outreach committee. Seems as though there was a lot of representation, but the issues talked about showed a lack of listening to these people of color in the food system.
 - Also went through a good exercise to see who makes the decisions in groups.
 - Also spoke to the representatives from Mexico about NAFTA. Impacts our FPC due to the port and exporting and importing food.
 - Need to talk about his to county people. Saw some of the companies that get the issues.

3. Committee Reports

Council Development Committee: Tammy reported from the latest CD committee

- Rosalinda received an award from Social Justice Northwest. She did bring some info from the AFPC to the dinner and spoke with some people about it.
- Operating procedures: Quickly reviewed the procedures
 - Proposed changes:
 - Changed E to have absences *may* be grounds for removal. Need to discuss further what that means.
 - Number 6 types of membership. Specify that the advisory member is non-voting
 - Number 7 change to decision making: What is a quorum? Majority. Amending is 2/3rds
 - Put more description in or have a bit more information
 - Number 9 – may need to decide on the standing committees
 - Number 10 B – set the agenda for the AFPC meetings
 - Question about this being an annual document
 - Question about term for AFPC membership ending in June 2007?
 - This may not give flexibility to continue. There are a few things to happen - city/county say no or June 30, 2007
 - Number 4 – keep this year mention and remove other mentions of year-term
 - May need a backup plan – who is revoting and how does the AFPC become the FPC?
 - Scratch the deadlines and work on that for the future – someone must be charged to think about positioning the council to continue on after.
 - 2A and 5 scratch references and 4 include terms may be extended
 - 2,3 4, 5 6 should be organized differently to all be under “membership”
 - Comment on #1, mission. Room for improvement. More of a process to improve the mission and have input from the AFPC on this. Need to create the mission statement as a whole body.
 - Number 3 requirements – instead of something do “community work”
- November meeting with funders: Amy Solomon (Bullitt Foundation: <http://www.bullitt.org/>), Savitha Reddy Pathi (The Seattle Foundation: <http://www.seattlefoundation.org>), Susan Fairchild (Social Venture Partners: <http://www.svpseattle.org/>)
 - 10-15 min presentation about the FPC. What it is and why they should be interested. Then the rest of the time for funders to advise about their needs, thoughts, etc. Keep the whole thing to an hour so keep the FPC presentation short.
 - November meeting 9:30 to 10:30.
 - This qualifies as a session for our grant commitments
- Two more education sessions left.
 - These session will specifically be on low-income issues
 - Ideas include Tracy Wilking – from WA food coalition of food banks.
 - Another suggestion was UWKC, Vince M.
 - Chantal was going to contact someone from the committee on homelessness
 - Question about the focus of these sessions being on programs that should include food but don't? If they know nothing about food, how does that work? Make sure

that if someone comes to talk about an issue it might be a better use of time to specifically talk about how the food programs are used by clients/users and barriers to better/more use of these programs. This will provide a useful discussion to connect strategies for food programs to a policy

- Suggested to get someone from a more community-grounded group. We are good at institutions, but don't have great connections with grassroots organizations.
- Suggestion to understand the issues of the King County immigrant population – bring in someone to talk about lack of culturally appropriate food. Refugee Women's alliance, Immigrant and cultural issues should be built into any policy the AFPC or FPC pursues
- Suggest that people need to email suggestions to the SPRD committee
- Work is pretty much done for CD committee– morph into an action and planning committee – start to create a policy platform to help have a common interest and solid ideas to communicate.
 - Must start working with upper management at city and county and have a strong message to get away from “business as usual”

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

- Notice a disconnect from city activities and county activities. Different levels of action
 - Try to cultivate an IDT at the county – not just one person but a lot of different voices and departments.
 - Contacting key informants and creating a prep-package
 - Key message
 - Resolution
 - What's the problem, etc.
 - Benefits of the council
 - What we want from the city/county
 - Importance --- in order to build key informants and have a consistent message and package
- Talked about a retreat
 - Suggest that instead of a retreat, we need a work session on policy, mission, etc.
 - Maybe this gets delegated to a new committee?
 - One suggestion was half or full day retreat
 - Another was using an AFPC meeting. December meeting is not yet booked. Come in an hour earlier or stay an hour later (3 hour) to have one full meeting dedicated to this
 - Concerns getting the group time for a full retreat
- Ongoing need for strategic planning and developing relationships with outside groups, but not dedicating enough work to long-term resource development. Not working on grant opportunities.
- Work plan
 - Objective 2 is the most recent change
- Comment on key informant: time to reach out to council members?
 - Value in staff champions but having elected official is important

- Agreed that it is time to go to council members (city and county) as well as revisit people that we've already talked to
- Currently drafting email to leverage participation in county by asking others that are currently aware to help form an IDT and give us more contacts within the county.
- Contact Julie Patterson, heard that she is interested (county council)
- Request to wait till after November 16 to contact city people. This is the date of growth mgmt sub-cabinet presentation by the IDT.
- Make sure the message is clear. May be some confusion about the distinction of an FPC versus other food-groups (Puget Sound Fresh)
- Comment about relationships between exec and council members at county level.
 - Use the management staff to help tell council and other staff about the opportunities.
 - Claire will bring it up to her boss
 - Concern over unfunded mandates as handed down by the Exec.
 - Level one value "apple pie" Good way to summarize the value of having an FPC
 - Get city mgmt level on board already – they understand this but what would it look like in terms of actions and resources. More specific.
 - Get bureaucratic buy-in on this package before going to exec or council
- Need to have more specifics – problems in the food system and how to solve them
- Ag commission is putting together something to go to East side cities (a road show) – sometime in winter. Suggest that city join in on this effort and get the east side cities up to speed on the issues
- Might need to do some research to understand the numbers of economic benefit of an FPC?

Community Relations Committee. Jen L presented latest committee work.

- Op-ed was submitted (global warming for dinner) Seattle Times was interested, but it is election time and they are jammed up with election things
 - Withdrew it from times and went to PI, but have yet to hear back
 - Reality may be that it won't come out until after Election – maybe tweak it for Thanksgiving timing
- Creating outreach materials – parallel things between committees (CR and SPRD). Various sorts of information for different audiences
 - Creating accessible and basic intro to food systems and FPCs
 - Get to this and talk to SPRD to keep out of duplicating efforts

4. Discussion on committee restructuring

- Suggest that restructuring be built into four committees:
 - Concern over number of people available to do work
- Suggested to tie to workplan. Four goals, four committees
- Goes back to new Objective 2 -- A2.02.02 – creating a policy platform
 - Concern that developing a policy platform is the work of an FPC not an AFPC
 - Suggested that developing a policy platform is not outside the work of the AFPC, but is meant to help to condense the communications between AFPC and stakeholders -- making a consistent case

- Question about starting the FPC with a community event? Have already done events and not ready to do another right now
- Question over what is the next step? Create a policy platform or doing some of the work?
 - Suggestion that these two are one in the same – structure a policy platform and at the same time connecting needs with resources, educating people and implementing ideas
 - The idea of a retreat is that creating the platform should be the work of the whole group
 - The reason is that everyone wants to contribute to this, but time is limited
 - Suggested that a committee needs to drive this process and get feedback from the council. Run the process.
 - Suggested that one committee put together how to run the December retreat. This committee will also then deal with the outcomes
 - Suggested that everyone come to the next meeting with an idea for policy- make it the responsibility of the entire council
 - Concern that not everyone is on the same level. People need to educate themselves – read reports that are available and be ready for this as a discussion and consensus.
 - Suggest that we create a policy/planning committee – strategic planning morphs into this and CD may fold into it
 - Make three committees:
Strategic planning and implementation
Resource Development
Community Relations
 - Concern that there is a lot of work in the SPRD if this is done
 - Maybe create “planning/policy” as a subcommittee of the SPRD?
 - Suggestion that the CD committee fold into the SPRD
 - This large group will decide how to reform themselves and come to next AFPC meeting with a recommendation how to handle this
- Strategic planning and policy – dissolve the CD into this group
Resource development
Community relations
 - Concern over dissolving the CD committee – see B1.07 on work plan– the CD still has this to do.
 - Change workplan to reflect that this task is for SPRD

5. Decisions (Mary abstaining from vote) Vote on all three items at once

Committee restructuring

- Two committees: CD merging with SPRD and carrying remainder of work – charged with preparing proposal for further committee restructuring and handling remaining tasks in workplan
- Operating procedures and workplan including revisions

All council members approved of the items as revised.

6. New Business

Kellogg grant

- More than 50 people at the meeting
- Public Health – Seattle & King County and WSU King County Extension will co-convene the planning phase grant
- Identified core planning team - AFPC is well represented (specifically, this will be Branden, Mary, Erin, Sylvia and Laura)
- Final proposal due December 11
- Many people requested that the AFPC be included – none of these people were on the AFPC!

Luce team

- four people from public policy, business, geologist
- Working with Laura and OSE on general question of food system effect on greenhouse gases to fit into Mayor's climate change agenda
- Working with Jamillah (Emerson Hunger Fellow) on a neighborhood level food access – type and quality
- Have group think about what else Luce group could work on – economic impacts? Labor issues?
 - Maybe SPRD should be steering committee for the students? Maybe use Tammy as representative
 - Lay out an email to the AFPC to solicit ideas
 - IDT interested in food assessment at a neighborhood level. Neighborhoods might include: Delridge, Rainier Beach, SE Seattle, Lake City, Northgate, others with issues of food insecurity
- Luce member from last year now working for PSRC gave report to Norm Abbott. He requested a two or three page write-up what a food system would look like for 2040 – working with her to write this up – go the SPRD committee
- Comment to consider a public event to raise awareness –
Where in the FPC process does community have input?
- Comment of when to start acting like an FPC? Laura got a call to work with Neighborhood House in redevelopment of High Point. They are trying to include a grocery store in this development – been unable to get grocery. Request to help get this done.
 - These are the sorts of issues to bring up at council, we are being seen as the way to connect these and help out – and provide resources.
 - Call Trudy – some locations are difficult and take a long time. Hard to get grocery into less affluent areas.