

Meeting Notes (action items are highlighted in green)

**Present:** Fe Arreola, Laura Raymond, Erin MacDougall, Branden Born, Linda Nageotte, Sylvia Kantor, Laura Niemi, Kelly Horton, Jen Lamson

**Absent:** Trudy Bialic, Steve Bauck, Pablo Monsivais, Mary Embleton, Tammy Morales

**Guests:** Sarah Garitone, Maggie Anderson, Diana Vinh, Jennifer Langston

- Goals: 1) Share information and updates about ongoing and new efforts.
- 2) Develop policy recommendations based on Greenhouse Gas Emissions draft paper.

**Comp Plan**

Tammy is taking the lead on review materials and welcomes help with this task. The Comp plan will be the main focus of discussion at the December 14 meeting. Language regarding EBT machines may be added so the AFPC needs to be ready to respond. Comments should focus on broader issues rather than details or programs.

**Local Farms, Healthy Kids**

Draft language is out but the policy is still under development. Students at UW have been helping with research needed to inform the policy. Best practices policy relating to F2S is being sought but it may just not exist. Language regarding the food bank aspects is being drafted and several concerns have surfaced: the capacity for food banks to handle the volume of fresh food; balance between amounts of contracted product versus donated product; setting a precedent of paying growers versus growers making donations; dairy and protein sources are difficult to procure and store. Linda has been involved in these discussions.

**Getting the Mandate**

It is expected that something will come from both the city and the county soon. People are encouraged to write letters to County council members Phillips, Lambert, and Hague in support of this issue. Neither the city nor county are including budget for this but it is hoped that since the request is so small funding for at least a half time staff person would be included in any language that is drafted. If formal recognition happens soon then both entities could begin to seek funding from different pots of money. Inviting the City Council to take the Eat Local for Thanksgiving pledge could be a good way to raise the profile of the AFPC with the city. It wouldn't hurt to mention that Pierce County has a mandate to create an FPC.

**Council Membership**

Erin MacDougall will remain on the council for now. Diana Vinh will continue to attend meetings.

**State FPC and Potential AFPC Role**

Governor Gregoire has been holding town hall meetings which may be an opportunity to raise talking points about creating a state FPC. Kelly has created such taking points and will share them with the AFPC members. The AFPC can serve in an educational capacity.

- On behalf of the AFPC, Kelly Horton and Jen Lamson will draft a position statement on creating a state FPC.
- Sylvia will send electronic copies to AFPC members of the original draft state resolution prepared for Gary Locke to sign.

**Eat Local for Thanksgiving Campaign**

The campaign is quite successful so far and has building in a snowball fashion as other organizations take on the idea and promote it among their constituents. At least 2200 people have pledged so far.

- Branden will contact Conlin's office about the possibility of the County council taking the pledge.
- Laura Niemi will contact Eden in the Dept of Neighborhoods about same.

## Short Papers

Access to food – It is unclear what the status of this paper is now.

- Sylvia will contact Andrew Bjorn to find out.

Farm to School—This paper is in development by Tricia Sexton.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions paper – discussion about policy recommendations

The paper is drafted except for the recommendations section. The paper is still pretty technical so it would be good to have a two page exec. Summary that will give the reader (i.e. policy makers) all the info they need to understand what is in the paper and what the policy implications are. Articulate the conclusions from the paper clearly. Focus on what the city and the county can actually do based on the implications from this study.

Some brainstormed policy recommendations from the AFPC:

- Get people out of their cars to buy food, especially with regard to farmers markets.
- Support development of cooperative transportation/distribution for farmers.
- Change bidding and procurement policy to allow institutions to purchase more locally grown food. People spend a lot of time away from home and eat a lot of their meals away from home.
- Promote backyard gardening and community gardens.
- Washington state is blessed with a climate that allows for growing lots of different foods. “If you can grow it here, you should buy it here”
- Need to promote different business models in addition to policy changes.
- Develop social marketing programs addressing how people get their food.
- Encourage the Seattle Climate Action Now effort to make the connection with how people get their food (driving, walking, taking the bus) as well as where it comes from.
- Point of sales labeling needs to indicate where food comes from and other values people care about (social justice, how food is grown, etc.). The AFPC could send a letter to grocery stores urging them to label locally grown foods with an educational explanation about why it is important.
- Create policy that requires one green grocer per (X) residents. Consider adding food into green building and planning. The closer people are to the source of their food (especially if they can walk), the less GHG are emitted.

Possible themes for policy recommendations:

Urban livability

Local food system infrastructure

Consumer education/social marketing

Food away from home

Zoning/tax incentives

- Branden will work on drafting executive summary and policy recommendations based on this input.

## Final updates

New USDA food insecurity data has been released. WA is now number 30 (which is at or below the national average) for food insecurity. It is thought that this is due to increased use of food stamp benefits (56-68% increase). Details can be found at <http://childrensalliance.org/publications/reports.cfm>

Wayne Roberts is tentatively scheduled to speak at the City of Seattle’s urban sustainability forum in February. Stay tuned for details.