

MEETING MINUTES
FOOD POLICY COUNCIL
March 10, 2014

Attendees:

Jen Dalton, Susan Lightfoot, Miles Gordon, Keegan Niland, April Cunningham, Scott Cratty, Cliff Paulin, Tarney Sheldon, Steph Logsdon, Jim Marril, Sheilah Rogers, Michael Foley, Peggy Backup, Julie Puffer, Amber Trotter, Terry d'Selkie

The meeting was called to order by Susan Lightfoot at 2:03 pm.

- I. Introductions were made. Everyone related their work to a goal in the Food Action Plan.
- II. Announcements
 - a. The Human Race will be May 3, 2014. Tarney and Scott are creating a group to do a Food Stamp Match program.
 - b. NCO and the FPC are working together to look at food policy. There is a meeting on March 18 at MCOG. To get involved contact Miles.
 - c. The Approved Source site is live. Go to Mendocino County Dept of Ag and type in "Approved Source" and the website comes up with information about the County's policy.
- III. Meeting Minutes from the February Meetings were approved.
- IV. Discussion around amending the language of the mission statement to include mention of farmers and food producers. Motion to change it to: To collaborate with farmers, food producers institutions, businesses, and the public at large to create a sustainable local food system that reduces hunger, increases health and expands economic vitality. The motion was seconded, a vote was called and the vote passed, with one opposing. The language will be changed on the website and the full Food Action Plan. We will amend all digital files.
- V. Update on the California Food Policy Council from Miles Gordon. 31 reps came to Sacramento from 21 regions. They are divided into regions with a push for regional meetings. The regional meeting is now scheduled for June 24 but it is not settled. In the afternoon, health department reps came and folks broke out into regions. Jen and Miles met with Dana from Lake County Public Health. The FAP highlights were shared with everyone there. There was discussion on the Legislative Scorecard. The idea was for the CAFPC to take a position on 1 or 2 Bills and there's a push to create information on some specific Bills. Three Bills going through now. Sen. Noreen Evans introduced a GMO Labeling Act (SB1381) into the legislature. The Mendocino FPC has an opportunity to support it. Peggy will get a copy of the Bill and write up an analysis. Sustainable Farming Act (AB 1961) requires counties to develop a sustainable farmland strategy. CA Neighborhood Food Act (AB2561) ensures the rights of individuals to grow food and sell it. Roots of Change is putting together a Market Match Nutrition Incentive Fund, it's based on the market match for EBT

- users. Miles went to Sen. Noreen Evans' office and to Assemblyman Chesbro's office, met with their legislative directors, distributed the FAP Highlights and made a connection.
- VI. Food Action Plan update: Jen has appointments with elected officials to share the Highlights. FPC members are welcome to join her at meetings. She met with Dan Gjerde and he agreed to endorse the FAP. The FAPCOM will need to meet again to plan out the distribution and strategize fundraising for the full FAP. Generate a targeted list of people who will get a printed FAP and why. Jen will generate a FAPCOM meeting email. Last April, Tarney made a pitch to the League of Women Voters and recently sent their Board a copy each of the Highlights. They are interested in endorsing as well. Tarney will follow up.
- VII. Small group work.
- a. Farmers & Food Producers: We need a website that people can go to that has resource info and calendaring and Have/Need information. Build on Mendocinocalfood.org ... Go to the Farmers Guild (Michael to get on agenda) and ask them re their needs and would they use it ... talk to Mendocinocalfood re possibility of hosting (Susan).
 - b. Health: Looked at different events happening and how we can support by serving local food, tabling, etc., partner to offer healthy food, table the Gardens Project. Increase promotion of these events (getting other people there). Paula Gaska doing "pop-up educational events re local food" ... add on to things that are already happening
 - c. Our Economy: Meat Processing. Potential investors located. Hurdles: a site is needed. An operator needed and enrolling more public support. Strategies: Enroll opinion leaders so there's a name behind it. Tout the benefit of local control in wake of Rancho debacle. Create visuals so people can see what it will look like. Stories from local producers and people who live near other small slaughterhouses and do some digital storytelling about why it's important. Question: What's the best way to reach most people in our county?
 - d. Our Community: MCOG is next step, meeting with them to suss out what we can focus on.
- VIII. Next meeting: MCOG presentation. We can invite them to come to our meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Minutes submitted by,

Jen Dalton
Meeting Note Taker

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