

Johnson County Food Policy Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 21, 2019
Johnson County Administration Building, 1st Floor Betty Sass Conference Room
913 S. Dubuque Street, Iowa City, IA 52240
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Attending Appointed Members: Chris Fortenbach, Dean Colony, Giselle Bruskevitz, Keshia Fields, Kristy Walker, Liz Maas, Michael Wilson, Shawn Meaney, Stephen Trefz

Attending Ex-Officio Members: Ilsa DeWald, Pat Heiden

Guests: Vanessa Fixmer-Oraiz

1. Call to Order (6:10 PM)
2. Introductions
3. Approve September 2019 Minutes
 - a. Moved, seconded and passed.
4. General Updates
 - a. Pat Heiden, BOS
 - i. 4 meetings set up in the county for more conversation about the UDO and get out accurate information on the plan.
 1. Lots of discussion about CAFOs as well as permitting if you want to build a house on your ag property
 2. Further discussion about 'lack of trust' and the imposition of 'hurdles' still needs to be sorted out.
 - b. Ilsa DeWald, Local Foods Coordinator
 - i. Recap of Farm Cycle @ JCHPF
 1. Was hosted in the rain but 120 still showed up. Farmers were riding as well. Great locally sourced food was served.
 - ii. IVRC+D received USDA Planning Grant for Community Food Asset Map
 1. [hand out attached]
 2. Council agreed to help with this, perhaps serving on a steering committee role
 - iii. Land Access Program Applications open until 11/15/19
 1. Please encourage people to apply. Cooler is on site and available. NO applicants to date. Minimal advertising to date
 2. Need to be certifiably organically grown.
 3. More information on website
 - iv. Ilsa is updating BOS at work session on Weds. Will ask for a budget request for an intern for next year.
 5. Recap Iowa City Farmers Market and Field to Family's Local Food Fair
 - a. It was a lot of fun on a rainy and cool day. There was good traffic and good participation. The watermelon was enjoyed by one and all as well as the zinnias.
 6. Discuss 2020 JCFPC Forum

- a. Focusing on JCPF and the Farm Incubator. Farm Incubator Project is to see what can be done to create support for startup farmers. This will build on material from regional farmers as well as with farms on both coasts.
 - b. Want to have interaction and conversations w/ folks who are farming and who are interested in farming.
 - c. Wide variety of topics and to gather information about this concept to provide for the future.
 - d. Suggestions made for UI contacts perhaps the Geography Department. Other suggestions welcome. Looking for broad outreach.
 - e. Action Items
 - i. Child Care: Mercy Hospital would be a resource
 - ii. Location: TBD Johnson County Regional Center Kirkwood Extension Service Still needs to be booked, Giselle will contact John
 - iii. Motion to approve title Land Access and Beyond (working title)
 - 1. Move, second, pass (one nay)
 - iv. Date: Feb 20 5:30-8:30
 - 1. Move, second, pass
 - v. Budget: Tentative 2,000.00. Food, marketing (may need to be amended for speakers and room rent) May be supplemented by JCHPF budget.
 - 1. Move, second , passed (one nay)
7. Updates from FPC Leadership Retreat
- a. Minutes from Planning are on Google Drive
 - b. Set agenda for the year.
 - c. Want to get ownership and active participation by all on the council
 - d. Discuss Soil + Water, Food Justice, Infrastructure, Marketing and Awareness(local food system), JCHPF Incubator as 2020 Focus Areas
 - i. Move approval these items as focus areas for 2020
 - 1. Move: Trefz, Second: Wilson, Passed
 - e. Ideas on how to improve council
 - i. More marketing and getting the word about what we do.
 - ii. Accessibility to Forums
 - iii. Get more research and subject matter experts represented to get their perspective
 - iv. Recommendation to have more food and to celebrate our successes
 - v. Reach out to Farm Bureau. Look to a designee that would be interested in attending. Consider having rep on the Board to improve communication as an ex officio member. Also look @ University as well as ex officio member.
 - vi. Work Group: Volunteer leaders report back to the council
 - vii. Approve 2020 Food Policy Council Meeting Dates
 - 1. Jan 13, Feb 10, March 9, Dec 14- Alternative dates to 3rd Monday
 - 2. April 20 , May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug 17, Sept. 21, Oct 19, Nov 16
 - 3. Moved Approval of meeting dates

- a. Move: Bruskewitz, Seconded: Maas, Passed
- 8. Discuss Johnson County UDO Ordinance Draft
 - a. Update from Bio Ag Meeting
 - i. Celebrating Ag in general Kristy and Ilsa presented recommendations the council has made and our purpose. Lots of questions and discussion. People were excited about nontraditional Ag.
 - ii. Will continue communication with this group
 - b. Updates from Planning + Zoning Commission
 - i. Take out the requirement for application more than 40 acres
 - ii. Building a house application may be out (?)
 - iii. Viability test was a source of a lot of conversation.
 - 1. Be settled by the loan entity
 - iv. More hearings will be held, next meeting in November 12. If they are good and pass it it would go to BOS and be an item on two meetings and need 3 readings.
 - 1. Would go live optimistically in March and would be effective immediately
- 9. Updates about local food and agriculture
 - a. Send these to Ilsa the week before, and they will be emailed out to the group
- 10. Adjourn: 8:04 PM