
Meeting Minutes

Food Policy Advisory Council – July 18, 2017

Board Room, West Pasco Government Center, 8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, FL 34654

Type of Meeting: Special Meeting

Voting Members in Attendance: Dell DeChant, Susie Holler (via phone)

Staff Members in Attendance: Mary Helen Duke, Planner II

Public: Patty Jackson

- Call to Order/Roll Call
 - Dell DeChant, Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 12:03pm.
 - Quorum of voting members with unexpired terms present.
- Updates On Business From Last Meeting:
 - Approval of Minutes
 - June 14, 2017
 - Approval of the October 5, 2016 minutes will be carried over until the next FPAC meeting. Susie Hoeller was unable to complete minutes due to family emergency.
 - Mr. DeChant made a motion to approve the June 14, 2017 minutes. Mrs. Hoeller seconded the motion.
 - FPAC Membership
 - Ms. Duke reported the reappointment of Fanchone Gude, Travis Morehead, Jeff Wright and Lester Cypher, the appointment of Megan Carmichael and the restructuring of FPAC membership composition is tentatively scheduled to go before the Board of County Commissioners for consideration on August 15, 2017. Ms. Duke referred to the draft agenda memo. Discussion followed on the split of the Pasco School District position into two positions, in order to bring the total number of voting members to 9 voting members, since Dr. Elmore's UF/IFAS position cannot be a voting member. Dell DeChant stated he could be an alternate for the presentation.
- 3. FPAC Annual Update & Food Policy Assessment
 - Duke explained that BCC Chairman Moore requested that the August 15, 2017 BCC meeting agenda be light, due to the school impact fee crowd that was anticipated.

Duke noted that at the last FPAC meeting, the council wanted both the FPAC Annual Update Report and the Food Policy Assessment presentations to be combined and presented at the August 15, 2017 meeting. Duke sent out new language for the BCC agenda memos and power point.

Mr. DeChant state he would be willing to do the presentation as backup if there was a time certain between 10:30am and 11:00am.

The Powerpoint was discussed with everyone thinking it was fine for the presentation.

6. Public Comment

- Patty Jackson of the Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger provided information on a n event/meeting next Thursday.

7. Food Policy Assessment - Mr. DeChant lead discussion on the new language being added to the Food Policy Assessment. Ms. Duke noted that Laike Abede of the Health Department had added in the new language on farmer's markets, the urban agricultural ordinance,

8. New Business to Discuss

- Mr. Dechant noted a higher level of promotion is needed to grow food in unexpected places. Mrs. Hoeller stated County public relations is not promoting what we are doing. She recommended FPAC request regular space in a 360 degree newsletter. FPAC needs to request a column or section. Duke noted a press release had been drafted on the urban agricultural ordinance, but was put on hold until County staff is fully up to speed with training to implement the new ordinance. She noted the website is being updated to address the urban agricultural ordinance. Both Ms. Duke and Mrs. Hoeller noted that FPAC members could submit more informational articles about food that could be shared with both FPAC, interested parties and the general public. It was noted that food is important and our reliance on transportation threatens food security. It's sick that people are hungry in this county. Discussion followed on developing a speaker's bureau. Duke noted she could do a CONA presentation, as well as to local civic associations. Duke noted there is no funding for a full time FPAC staff position, and that her time was very limited. It was noted that the language included in the Urban Agricultural Ordinance can help stimulate discussions with elected officials to fund an FPAC Coordinator position. Mrs. Hoeller noted that with more publicity and PR, more people will become engaged. One potential funding stream are ground leases of public lands for community gardens. Mr. Dechant noted that currently, there is no funding to do this.
 - Actions to be Taken:
 1. A request will be made from FPAC to the county's public information officer for the 360 degree newsletter column.

2. Request a meeting with Doug Tobin to develop a communications plan
 3. Prepare/Conduct a PowerPoint presentation on the Food Policy Assessment that could be taken on a speaker's bureau tour
 4. Prepare/Conduct a PowerPoint presentation on the Urban Agriculture Ordinance that could be taken on a speaker's bureau tour
- Other Business
 - Mr. DeChant requested a copy of the Farmer's Market List that Ms. Duke distributed in electronic version. Mr. DeChant offered to update the listing, based on his knowledge.
 - Mr. DeChant passed out information on the Okra Occasion to be held at the New Port Richey Library.
 - Mr. DeChant passed out the Florida Loquat News, dated July 1, 2017.
 - 2017 Meeting Schedule/Next Meeting Date
 - Next meeting is Wednesday, September 13 2017, 10am – 1pm in the Board Room (1st Floor), West Pasco Government Center, 8731 Citizens Drive, New Port Richey, FL.
 - Adjournment
 - Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Helen Duke
Planner II

Approval Date: 10/25/2017