

Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 7, 2015, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Ramsey County Plato Office Building
90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107

Members present: Diane Dodge, Metric Giles, Nadja Berneche, Rebecca Mino, Tracy Sides, Hua Vang

Others present: Fernando Burga, Evalyn Carbrey, Julie Seiber, Bob Patton, Callie Recknagel, Paul Hugnin, Deb Dalebroux, Erin Rupp, Samantha Henningson, Cy Kosel, Mark Zumwlnke, Darren Tolbot, Mary Montagne, Laura Bohlen, Patricia Ohmans

Announcements and upcoming events:

- I. Samantha Henningson, Legislative Aid to Councilmember Stark, and Cy Kosel from the Saint Paul Parks department reviewed the current draft of the Saint Paul Pollinator Resolution. They had planned to take it to Saint Paul City Council on December 16, 2015; however, they have decided to postpone until January 2016 (Date TBD), as they are finalizing some details based on recent feedback. They feel they have support from the Council, but want to make sure all departments are aware/on board with the language in the resolution. Samantha will send the most recent version to the Food and Nutrition Commission (FNC) when it is ready.
 - a. The FNC moved and voted to support the resolution.

- II. Paul Hungunin, Bob Patton and Callie Recknagel from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) attended the meeting to gather input to better understand the key issues currently facing urban agriculture in the state of Minnesota. MDA is mandated by the State Legislature to prepare a report on how to “effectively and efficiently promote urban agriculture in Minnesota cities.” This report is due to the legislature on January 15, 2016. For the report, MDA is soliciting community input via community engagement meetings and a written or online survey that is open until the end of December. Specifically they are looking for barriers to and opportunities for urban agriculture.
 - a. To provide input into the report, you can complete the online survey at <http://bit.ly/mnurbanag>. The survey is open until December 31, 2015.
 - b. You can contact Callie Recknagel, Farm to School Coordinator, for more information: 651-201-6260, callie.recknagel@state.mn.us about this project.

- III. Fernando Burga, an Assistant Professor for the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) degree program at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, provided examples of his students’ work. He discussed how his Site Planning class in Spring 2015 could work with the FNC to provide background information and

context to inform the work of the FNC on comp planning. The FNC is discussing how to have input into local comprehensive plans, with an aim to have language around food access included into the required chapters of the plans.

- a. The FNC will meet with Professor Burga in a follow up meeting on Monday, December 14th at 11:00 am (90 West Plato Blvd, 2nd floor glass conference room). This meeting will be to continue the discussion started during the December 7, 2015 meeting. All are welcome to attend.

Next steps: Mary Marrow from the Public Health Law Center will present at the January meeting to provide additional background on Comprehensive planning, and to discuss how the FNC can best be involved in the process.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Upcoming Food and Nutrition Commission Meetings

Date	Location
January 4, 2016	90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107
February 1, 2016	Location TBD
March 7, 2016	Location TBD