

**Food and Nutrition Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 4th 2018  
Merriam Park Library  
1831 Marshall Ave., St. Paul MN 55104**

*The purpose of the Saint Paul-Ramsey County Food and Nutrition Commission is to provide long-range planning and associated recommendations for policy, systems and environmental change at neighborhood, city and county levels with the aim of increasing access to healthy food.*

**Members Present/Representation**

Karen Fangman | County District 1 (Co-Chair)  
John Parker – Der Boghossian | County District 2  
Diane Dodge | County District 4  
Nadja Berneche | County District 5  
Metric Giles | City of St. Paul  
Rebecca Mino | City of St. Paul  
Ajeet Yadav | County District 7  
Shoua Salas | County District 2

**SPRCPH Staff:**

Carissa Glatt | SHIP Grant Coordinator (Staff Liaison)  
Sara Levy | U of MN/SHIP Intern  
William Moore | SPRCPH SHIP  
Franny Clary-Leiferman | SPRCPH SHIP  
Leo Moreno | SPRCPH  
Jamaila Pickett | SPRCPH  
Kee Vang | SPRCPH  
Jocelyn Ancheta | SPRCPH  
Naheli Ahmed | SPRCPH  
Kathy Filbert | SPRCPH

**Guests:**

Max Holdhusen | Ramsey County Manager’s Office  
Juie Seiber | Community member  
Patti Whitney-Wise | Community member  
Jessica Cobourn | Community member  
Kirsten Klaver | Community member  
Barb Rose | Community member  
Filsan Ibrahim | Community member  
Heidi Affi | Community member  
Donald Warnecke | Community member  
Judy Carvalho | Community member  
Sean Gosiewski | Community member

The meeting was called to order at 5:48 pm. Everyone was welcomed to the meeting and introductions were made.

Agenda item:	Speaker/Discussion:
Welcome & Introductions (all)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Welcome (Karen)</li> <li>● Introductions</li> </ul>
Comprehensive Planning; Community Use of Ramsey County Land Policy – Overview (Max Holdhusen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comp plan presentation (Max)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 6-month community review process now open, will then go to the Board for final approval</li> <li>○ Questions/comments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Nadja offered to walk through process for comp plan review and commenting (September? October? Working session?)
  - Process of community ‘engagement’ – not truly engaging
  - Policing as a public health issue?
    - Within housing? Transportation? Parks and trails?
      - Parks/trails might not be prepared to actually have more users
      - Suggestion to go to County’s Human Rights committee with this topic specifically
    - Could be brought up in the Foundation section
    - Or resiliency section?
  - Food/health concerns probably fit into other sections, in addition to resiliency
  - How to keep visibility after comp plan has been passed?
    - Could have some sort of dashboard to keep track of progress?
- Land Use policy presentation (Max)
  - What ideas do we have for county land?
    - Edible landscapes
    - Gardens, pollinators, solar panels, resting green areas (benches, bushes)
    - Outdoor exercise area (‘adult jungle gyms’)
    - Places to store tools, sheds, refrigerator space, kitchen for cooking classes (cultural, holiday) – items to support community gardens, meeting space
    - Frogtown Farm as a model
    - Community circle, orchard
    - Needs to be accessible – transportation is limiting
    - Smaller pockets of green space within Frogtown (outside of Frogtown Farms itself)
    - Needs to benefit actual residents (Frogtown example, tax breaks benefits for non-residents)
    - Need to be intentional about which organizations are participating
      - Need to think about more than just organizations, thinking about the residents (neighborhood leaders) – make sure there are no barriers that exclude residents
    - Urban farm
    - Composting – build up soil
      - Yard waste
    - Be careful about invasive species/plants
    - Education – signage (how to plant, how to forage, this is Ramsey county public space and contact so and so to use it) [with translations]
    - Rain gardens
    - Urban foraging areas – items that don’t need cultivating
    - Green space as part of the zoning process – collaborate with cities

- Request for demographics for each of the land uses – parks: cost of maintenance? People profile for users? Institutional profiles? Investing in golf and hockey areas, subsidizing. Need to see where the investment is going. Need for qualitative conversation
- In small spaces, jungle gyms, anything that can increase youth usage – natural space (logs etc)
- Can the public works space be county run?
- Accessible space for farmers market
  - Vision: resident and community run (rather than county run) – keep in mind intentional/unintentional benefits of non-profits rather than residents
- Land designated for growing – problem in the city – not permanent, don't have the resources to buy the land/own the land – new models for ownership or shared ownership. And clean-up of the land (remedial work) – have the county invest in this process (county to help mitigate environmental dangers)
- One green space that was designed to be the map of MN - helps put people in context, in a larger community
- Choose a green space in each neighborhood and do a scavenger hunt within that space – help us get out into other communities
- What would you need to make your visions happen?
  - County/city needs to partner (rather than an owner)
  - Water access – county facilitation partnership with those who can help navigate this issue
  - Need to know who to contact for license or permits for cook-out, bbq, potluck with neighbors – need to get to know neighbors in a common space – then get to share, together, in a non-verbal powerful way
  - Community help review the applicants – help with power dynamic between the community and the county – having it come from within the community (district councils?)
  - Funds from the county given to the community for the community themselves to decide what is needed/plan
  - Youth engagement (10-20 year olds) – getting youth involved – music, games, movies, learning from elders – bridging gap between generations
  - A SAFE space to be outside (policing issues)
- What is hard about working with the county?
  - Need to talk to community members, neighbors
  - Technology barrier – not everyone wants to access county info via the internet
  - Liability insurance barrier – directly conflicts with community engagement
  - Having everything being only about statistics/surveys
- What would make the process easier?
  - more contact info than an email address
  - Need languages other than English
  - Need to be able to find what land is available, and how to use it

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need to know how long the land is available for use – it takes time to develop green space</li> <li>■ Permanently designate so it can't be sold</li> <li>■ Need a long-term commitment to the space – invest community input, financing, time, ownership</li> <li>■ Divvy up expensive space</li> <li>■ Request for Max to come back and report findings (in the fall) – build relationships in the community</li> <li>■ Technical assistance, to help with ownership barriers – support knowledge and skill base for development</li> <li>○ Max's Contact Info <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Max Holdhusen</li> <li>■ 651-431-8199</li> <li>■ <a href="mailto:Max.holdhusen@co.ramsey.mn.us">Max.holdhusen@co.ramsey.mn.us</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Community Health Assessment – Overview (Jocelyn Ancheta)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community Health Assessment presentation</li> <li>● Questions/comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Zip code data – sharing that? Breaking down by cities? This data is hard to get, would be helpful to share <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Will keep it as zip codes – will share data with cities in those zip codes – want to bring it back to the communities, make sure got things right, find out if missed anything</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Does 60% communities of color represent Ramsey County? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No, deliberately over-sampled for communities of color</li> <li>▪ What is the actual demographic?</li> <li>▪ Why over-sample if the plan is supposed to impact a larger area/everybody? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Looking at health equity, need to look at the issues that impact communities of color disproportionately – used to look at the equity issue</li> <li>● Was easier to get white respondents, wanted to make sure were getting others – needed to make the efforts to go in and get responses from those who may not feel comfortable otherwise</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Housekeeping (Carissa)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Bylaw vote – <i>insufficient member presence to vote (quorum not met) – did not vote</i></li> <li>● Co-Chair Vote - <i>insufficient member presence to vote (quorum not met) – did not vote</i></li> <li>● FNC Member openings and recruitment – <i>did not address</i></li> <li>● Communications plan adoption – <i>did not address</i></li> <li>● FNC group retreat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will everyone be able to attend? All members in current attendance will be able to attend July's meeting – staff will call other members to ask</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Additional Updates &amp; Announcements (all)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Patti Whitney-Wise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Market Bucks program - \$10.00 matching for SNAP participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Donald Warnecke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ June 15<sup>th</sup> = Community Peace Celebration, 3-7pm</li> <li>○ 376 Western Ave N, St. Paul 55103</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Barb Rose</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facilitating Racial Equity Collaborative(FREC): Racial equity &amp; foods discussion, part of facilitation racial equity collaborative – missing food justice piece on this collaborative – invitation to involve FNC members – let Barb know if interested. Meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 9-11am at Golden Thyme Coffee: 921 Selby Ave., St. Paul. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More info in FREC PDF attachment, emailed with draft meeting minutes</li> <li>▪ Barb Rose contact info <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="mailto:Barb.rose@earthlink.net">Barb.rose@earthlink.net</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Jessica Cobourn: Urban Food Systems Symposium in August <a href="http://www.urbanfoodsystemssymposium.org/">http://www.urbanfoodsystemssymposium.org/</a></li> <li>● Sean Gosiewski – Alliance for Sustainability – attachment to email sent with meeting minutes</li> </ul>
Follow-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff will contact FNC members absent from tonight’s meeting to ask if they will be able to attend July’s retreat</li> </ul>

Minutes taken by: Sara Levy

Motion to adjourn (7:30 p.m.) passed by affirmation of the committee.

**Next meeting:** Location TBD, Monday July 9th 2018, 5-8pm

These minutes approved on 9/10/18.