

**Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, March 3, 2014**  
**5:30 – 7:30 p.m., 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107**

Members attending: Colleen Schlieper, Diane Dodge, Helene Murray, Metric Giles, Nadja Berneche, Pat Trotter

Others attending: Eleonore Wesslerle, Jaya Ginter, Jen Christensen, Julie Seiber, Lane Rapp, Rebecca Mino, Tracy Sides

Nadja Berneche opened the meeting and members and guests introduced themselves.

Announcements included the following.

**Urban Oasis:**

Tracy Sides announced that the fiscal agent for the Urban Oasis project will be Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

**Mapping project with Macalester College Interns:**

Gardening Matters has two Macalester interns, with backgrounds in mapping and geography, who are working on creating a food access map for the residents in the East Side of St. Paul and then expanding the area to other Food Hubs in St. Paul and possibly Ramsey County as a whole. The group discussed the types of food locations the interns should include in the map such as free meal programs, food shelves, farmers markets, CSAs, etc. Updates on this project will be provided as they available.

**Review of information requested by Mayor Coleman's office:**

An intern with the Mayor's office requested an updated list of FNC members and the specific wards/districts they represent. Eligibility criteria for future FNC members were also requested. Members noted that more diversity would be helpful. Jaya provided members with a document to review for accuracy and update if changes were needed.

**Other announcements from members and guests:**

Eleonore Wesslerle shared an update on her sign-on response letter to the Met Council and the Fair Housing Equity workgroup. She thanked the Commission and individual members who agreed to sign-on to her letter. Members thanked Eleonore for her work on drafting and sending the letter. Eleonore also reviewed the next steps for the ThriveMSP 2040 process. She reported public comment can be done until April 28<sup>th</sup>. She shared that the Fair Housing Equity, now named Choice, Place, Opportunity (CPO) will be hosting neighborhood specific meetings. The goal is to alleviate poverty and address issues in racially concentrated areas of poverty (RCAP). Eleonore will keep the Food and Nutrition Commission informed on upcoming progress. For more information see: <http://metro council.org/Planning/Projects/Thrive-2040/Choice-Place-and-Opportunity.aspx> The FNC is interested in following progress of the sessions in Ramsey County.

Diane updated the group on the Urban Agriculture Summit and Resource Fair which is on Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at Sabathani in Minneapolis. She encouraged members to attend. Julie Seiber said that she will be attending on Saturday.

**Planning for table at East Side Food Hub-**

The three food hubs in Ramsey County have seed and plant distributions planned as follows:

Seed distributions

- First Covenant Church (1280 Arcade St.) in **East Side** St. Paul: Saturday, March 22, 9:30am- noon
- Hancock Recreation Center (1610 Hubbard Ave.) in St. Paul **Midway**: Saturday, April 5th, 9:00am- noon
- Rivers Edge Academy (188 Plato Blvd.) in **West Side** St. Paul: Tuesday, April 8th, 6:30- 8:00pm

Plant distributions- all on Saturday, May 17th:

- Gordon Parks High School (1212 University Ave) in St. Paul **Midway**, 9:00am- noon
- First Covenant Church (1280 Arcade) in **East Side** St. Paul, 9:00am- noon

Jen (Public Health intern) and Jaya will staff a table at the East Side Food Hub Seed Distribution Event on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to represent the Food and Nutrition Commission and work out staffing at the other seed distributions. SNAP outreach, Mississippi Market, and Twin Cities Mobil Market will also be represented at the East Side event. The FNC table will feature a question(s) to ask the event audience to gain some insight for the FNC. The group discussed possible handouts and resource tools to be created to hand out during the event. They thought that a hand-out about the new Saint Paul urban agriculture and farmers’ market zoning changes would be helpful.

The group worked on the Commission’s priority setting and planning document.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

UPCOMING MTG. DATES	MEETING DETAILS: 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107 5:30 – 7:30 pm
April 7, 2014	Star Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor,
May 5, 2014	Plato Conference Center, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
June 2, 2014	Plato Conference Center, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
July 7, 2014	Star Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
August 4, 2014	Plato Conference Center, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
September 8, 2014	Plato Conference Center, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
October 6, 2014	Star Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
November 3, 2014	Star Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
December 1, 2014	Star Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor