

Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2012
5:30 to 7:30 pm

Conference Center, 1st Floor
Ramsey County Plato Office Building
90W. Plato Blvd, Saint Paul, 55107

Members attending: Nadja Berneche, Bernie Hesse, Katie Koecher, Linda Littrell, Lisa Jore, Kentale Morris, Helene Murray, Brett Olson, Leonard Russo, Colleen Schlieper, Becky Timm,

Others include: Jennifer Anderson, Katie Godfrey, Mark Granlund, Julie Seiber, Nancy Hoyt Taff

Welcome and Introductions by Becky Timm, Co-Chair

Katie Godfrey announced that the committee hearing for City of Saint Paul urban agriculture zoning changes has been pushed back until March 20th. Nadja Berneche announced that the upcoming Gardening Matters' Resource Fair would like to have a volunteer to represent the commission on a panel. Leonard Russo announced the final approval of a new park in the Frogtown neighborhood purchased from the Wilder Foundation by the Trust for Public Land at half its appraised value. Mr. Russo also announced the loss of an ally as the Chair of the Agriculture Committee, Representative Doug Magnus, will not be running for re-election.

Twin Cities Medical Society (Jennifer Anderson)

Jennifer Anderson described the work of the Obesity Prevention Coalition of the Twin Cities Medical Society. She stated that the mission of the Coalition is to encourage cities to adopt resolutions and policies that encourage active living and healthy eating concepts. She distributed the Coalition's sample resolution and explained that it is a menu of possibilities for the ideal resolution. Ms. Anderson stated that the Coalition plans to approach City of Saint Paul soon and she requested that the Commission be a partner and supporter in this process. Commission members discussed the assets of partnering with Coalition given its medical credentials and expressed consent for a partnership as the work of the groups overlaps. Chair Becky Timm stated that the next steps will be for Commission staff to keep the Coalition informed as the Commission drafts its resolution.

County and City Application Process for Food and Nutrition Commission Members

Julie Seiber stated that in May, there will be three vacancies on the Commission - two county appointees and one city. She said that the County has re-issued its call for applicants and that the City will be doing the same in the next month. Chair Timm urged Commission Members to encourage people to apply who would increase the diversity of skill-sets and communities represented by the board.

Timeline and Work Planning

Nancy Hoyt Taff presented a three month timeline for the Commission, detailing the steps of the process to pass a city council resolution that approves the Commissions' recommendations. The Commission discussed strategy for meeting with city council members and county commissioners and broke into groups by ward. Chair Timm stated that the individual meetings should be conducted over the next month so that the resolution can be brought before the Council in April.

Adjourn. Chair Timm adjourned the meeting at 7:30.

Next Meeting: April 2nd, 2012, 5:30 – 7:30, Star Room, Ramsey County Plato Office Building, 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, MN, 55017.