

Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 7th, 2012, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Conference Center, 1st Floor

Ramsey County Plato Office Building

90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107

Members Attending: Becky Timm (Co-Chair), Hai Truong (Co-Chair), Nadja Berneche, Diane Dodge, Metric Giles, Lisa Jore, Linda Littrell, Helene Murray, Brett Olson,

Others Attending: Katie Godfrey, Anton Jerve, Mark Granlund, Barb Grossman, Samantha Henningson, Ann Hunt, Jim Ivy, Tim Page, Julie Seiber, Nancy Hoyt Taff, Cherry Flowers

Welcome and Introductions (Becky Timm & Hai Truong)

Julie Seiber proposed that the commission sponsor “Food Week” October 16th through 24th, starting with International Food Day on the 16th and ending on national Food Day on the 24th. Commission members stated a desire to host several events and a small task-force to plan these events was created with Lisa Jore and Becky Timm along with staff.

Update on Zoning Amendment Process (Anton Jerve, PED, City of Saint Paul)

Anton Jerve detailed the upcoming process to change two city zoning codes to better accommodate urban agriculture in St. Paul. He stated that the first of several public hearing in front of the Saint Paul Planning Commission is June 1st, and suggested that the commission present testimony at the hearing. Commission members decided to have the Urban Agriculture Task Force draft and present testimony on behalf of the commission. Nadja and Helene will convene the task force.

Follow up on meetings with individual City Council and County Board members

Several members had been able to meet with their City Council or County Board representatives, but others were unable to connect with them. Co-Chair Becky Timm stressed the importance of some form of communication prior to the council and board presentations.

Planning for May 16th Council Meeting and June 5th County Board Meeting.

Samantha Henningson, aide to Council Member Russ Starke, detailed what happens at a City Council meeting and what is expected during the commissions’ presentation. Co-Chairs Becky Timm and Hai Truong will be presenting on the report, with the assistance of Nadja Berneche and staff Julie Seiber. Staff members Nancy Hoyt Taff and Julie Seiber will craft an email to invite community members to the meeting as well as create a power-point for the presenters based on discussion at this meeting and the recommendations themselves.

Recognition of Outgoing Members (Julie Seiber)

Julie Seiber recognized outgoing members Linda Littrell, Lenny Russo, and Katie Koecher for their contributions to the Commission.

The commission adjourned 20 minutes early to celebrate successes and socialize.

Next meeting: Monday, June 4th 2012, 5:30 – 7:30, Conference Center, 1st Floor, Ramsey County Plato Office Building, 90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, MN, 55017.