

Food and Nutrition Commission Meeting Minutes September 12, 2011

**Ramsey County Plato Conference Center
90 W. Plato Blvd., Saint Paul, 55107
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Attending

Members: Becky Timm, Bernie Hesse, Diane Dodge, Hai Truong, Helene Murray, Katie Koecher, Brett Olson, Metric Giles, Nadja Berneche, Lisa Jore

Others: Anne Hunt, Barbara Grossman, Diana Turner, Greg Sorensen, Julie Seiber, Lindsey Hoeft, Mark Granlund, Paula Huffman, Sarah Eichberger, Samantha Henningson, Stefan Pomrenke

Welcome and Introductions--Becky/Hai

Announcements and upcoming events (All)

- Information gathered at the State Fair is compiled and available on the web page.
- Oct. 24, National Food Day. The group agreed to have table at UofM Coffman Union <http://foodday.org/> It was suggested that we get a proclamation from Mayor Coleman. Anne Hunt said that he would need some input to localize a proclamation, not just the template from Center for Science in the Public Interest who is organizing Food Day.
- November 14-16 Conference, Making It Better: Creating a Healthier Community Together, SHIP and CDC request for presentation proposals. The organization and work of the Food and Nutrition Commission could be presented. Anne Hunt suggested that incorporating the information gathered from the food assessment of four St. Paul neighborhoods would be interesting as a part of the presentation. Julie Seiber will write and submit the proposal.
- Evaluation survey will be sent to Commission members to complete on Survey Monkey
- Food availability uncertain at future meetings due to the end of the 2009-11 SHIP funding. Bernie Hesse offered to provide food for the next meeting.
- Dr. Stefan Pomrenke announced a meeting to be held on Oct. 20 to determine community interest in organizing a food co-op on the East Side of St. Paul. Julie Seiber will attend the meeting.

Review of Recommendations Compilation (All)

The group began a discussion of the draft of the compiled recommendations along with written comments from city staff provided by Samantha Henningson. Anne Hunt said that the recommendations as drafted are more a work plan than policy recommendations.

It was suggested that definitions are needed for some of the terms used and that stronger action verbs would be better than words like encourage and support. The commission needs to identify areas that need more research/information and to determine the appropriate government body or other organization for implementation—the who and how. Metric Giles and Lisa Jore suggested that evaluation and accountability need to be included. Julie suggested a format consisting of three parts—a policy document building from the 1980's policy and

incorporating ideas from the task forces, a work plan consisting of the very specific recommendations from the task forces and a background document to provide support for those working to implement the plan. Commission members should get comments to Julie by Sept. 19, or make changes on the document in the Dropbox file. The people who volunteered with the task forces will be important for implementation efforts.

It was suggested that the District Councils in Saint Paul would be important partners in this work and that Commission members or staff should go to District Council meetings to discuss proposals and plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Next meetings:

Monday, October 3, 5:30 – 7:30, Plato Conference Center

Monday, Nov. 7, 5:30 – 7:30, Plato Building, 2nd Floor Star Room