



Hamilton

**MINUTES
COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY STAKEHOLDER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

4:00 p.m., The Hayloft

Dundurn Castle

610 York Blvd., Hamilton

Present: Russell Ohrt, Kirstin Maxwell, Maciej Kowalski, Ursula Samuels, Emma Cubitt, Brian Kreps, Adam Watson, Karen Burson, Tina Moffat, Melanie Golba, Liz Shaver-Heeney, Vicki Edwards, Judi Childs, Sarah Wakefield, Carolyn Cade, Simon Taylor

Absent with Councillor McHattie, Angela Parle, Councillor Pasuta, Susan Coverdale, Councillor Bratina, Tabaruk Jahan,

Regrets:

Also Present:

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Russell Ohrt/Tina Moffat)

3.1 Community Food Security Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes dated March 4, 2009 were approved. Approval of minutes from April will be on the agenda at the June meeting.

CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 There were no presentations.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Launch Feedback

- Sarah thanked Vicki Edwards, Simon Taylor, and Karen Burson for their organization.
- Several attendees expressed interest in being informed of upcoming events.
- The committee will consider planning another event in the fall.

5.2 Subcommittee Reports

Increasing Access – Brian Kreps

- Increasing Access subcommittee has identified an interest in accessing mapping resources. The city has some resources. Brian will organize a meeting including people who are interested and establish whether resources can be pooled and how to move forward. The mapping will focus on places to access food with GIS (geographic information systems) mapping.
- Health Protection Branch of Public Health Services has developed a map which includes supermarket locations. There is also an existing map of food banks.
- Other discussion regarding mapping included: Sarah Mayo from SPRC has a community mapping service and may be able to assist; maps should incorporate public transit; maps should include qualitative function (i.e., include capacity at which food banks are operating)
- Russell Ohrt will forward Community Garden Network report to CFSSC members

Infrastructure – Karen Burson

- The role of the Infrastructure subcommittee has been identified as facilitating projects rather than developing them internally, and lobbying for supportive policy where appropriate. In addition to ongoing work is support of the Food Terminal, an initial emphasis on Eat Local was suggested, focusing on local food procurement in the school system: elementary, secondary and post secondary.
- Subcommittee will arrange a meeting with Hamilton Partners in Nutrition regarding local food procurement in school food programs.
- Information will be shared with the child care community.

Policy

- Policy subcommittee did not meet.

Education - Tina Moffat

- The Education subcommittee plans to develop a website that will include information regarding all food/food security issues. Ideas are being sought for an inspiring name for the website. The first piece of information is on the Healthy Living Hamilton website.
- The subcommittee will be asset mapping to develop a comprehensive list of different organizations, events, etc. in Hamilton. Some existing resources are community gardens and grocery store mapping and the food access guide. Other groups will possibly be engaged.

5.3 Zoning Report

Robert Clackett will present the Zoning Report in September. The committee welcomed Kirstin Maxwell who will be temporarily representing Planning.

5.4 Applications for Membership

- No applications have been received from people in the Food Industry or Relevant Labour Organization sectors
- Some conventional farmers have spoken to Councillor Pasuta about the possibility of joining but declined because honorariums and/or mileage are not available for committee members. Existing applications are from organic farms.
- No opportunities for additional recruitment were identified.

5.5 Research Update – Sarah Wakefield

- Two students taking independent study courses at the University of Toronto are working with Sarah Wakefield on issues of importance to the CFSSC
- Focus for students will be:
 - Planning mechanisms around food, including best practices in food planning and policy (i.e., around community gardens, farmers markets).
 - Food access and best practices in anti-hunger programs, Examples from other jurisdictions will be studied, including international examples. Interviews will be conducted with people in Hamilton to determine the appropriateness of various strategies to Hamilton.
- A third student (Masters in Planning) is working for Sarah this summer to organize some events in Hamilton and will be contacting community partners.
- Sarah will look into funding other students through University of Toronto workstudy program.
- Projects for students must have particular deliverables i.e., what do we want to see at the end of the project
- Sarah will be the main contact with students and will forward any information from committee members to students

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Halton Food Forum Update – Councillor Pasuta

Councillor Pasuta was not available to present.

6.2 Presentation to the Ontario Professional Planning Institute Lunch and Learn – Karen Burson

- Panelists included participants from the Royal Botanical Gardens and Evergreen. Karen's presentation was called "Planning to Eat". Karen has set up a group on Facebook called "Planning to Eat".

6.3 Ontario's Test Kitchen, Food Security Conference – Karen Burson

- Presented by School of Public Policy and Governance from the University of Toronto
- Speakers presented on future of food access for low income people, growing supply and demand for local food.
- Workshops focused on “from the ground up” ideas.
- Learned about IAASTD, the International Assessment of Agriculture Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development – global summary for decision makers
- A discussion of possible community assets and other resources to compile, and eventually post on the CFSSC website Ideas of information/listings to post included:
 - grocery stores
 - community gardens
 - Food Access Guide
 - organizations that work with food
 - food related events
 - education – i.e., community kitchens (include those available but not being used)
 - cultural groups and their activities
 - public health initiatives related to food
 - farmers’ markets
 - farms that have direct-to-consumer sales (Eat Local food map)
 - Good Food Box(es)
 - CSAs,
 - OPIRG PEAS
 - Master Gardeners program
 - Training programs (e.g., Everdale, Farmers growing Farmers, Farm Start, Farm Link, courses at post secondary institutions locally)
 - Hamilton Public Library resources
 - composting resources (Composting Council of Canada)
 - school nutrition programs
 - Hamilton Prenatal Nutrition Project
 - seed and gardening supply stores
 - restaurants that focus on local food
 - how to videos (i.e., how to preserve, barbeque)

6.5 Re-usable Grocery Bag Giveaway – Adam Watson

- Public Works is going ahead with their plan to distribute re-usable food bags.

6.6 City of Hamilton Community Gardens - Emma Cubitt

- Suggestion that there should be more community engagement and organization in community gardens. A coordinator would do this.
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- In relation to planning, it was mentioned that the Secondary Plan Technical Steering Committee deals with issues that are not necessarily covered under other mandates – this issue would be the

perfect opportunity to link concerns about land use process. High on list for next few years are intensification areas. There is an identified schedule in process.

- The potential for policy development in Hamilton in relation to community gardens was discussed. It was mentioned that Seattle's policy includes one community garden for every 2500 citizens. The City of Toronto has one community garden in each ward.
- Sarah has invited Solomon Boye, Coordinator of Toronto's Community Gardens, as a possible speaker for the next meeting. If he can't make it, she will invite Candice Wormsbecker to speak on access in the Waterloo region. Candice coordinates community gardens and access in the Waterloo region.

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Adam Watson/ Karen Burson)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm. **CARRIED**