



EDMONTON FOOD COUNCIL

Minutes

September 21, 2015

Basement Meeting Room, Chancery Hall, 3 Sir Winston Churchill Square

Present:

M. Bencz, K. Franke, M. Male, B. Swallow, M. Dear, M. LaRue, D. Bajer, H. Shewchuk, C. Rakowski, S. Chunara, T. Lynch-Staunton, C. J. Stanton

Absent:

S. Demers-Collins, P. Yu, J. Shewchuk

Special Guests:

K. Scott, Coordinator, Animal Care and Control Centre, City of Edmonton
M. Lee, Economist, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
E. Markus, President, Infact Research and Consulting Inc.

Also in attendance:

Y. Pronovost, Principal Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch
H. Quan, Acting Senior Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch

1. Welcome

H. Quan called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m. New Food Council members were welcomed, following a roundtable introduction to help everyone get acquainted. H. Quan provided an overview of the agenda.

2. Governance Committee Report - DECISION ITEM

H. Quan invited the Governance Committee members to provide comments on the Governance Committee report, which included important recommendations that needed to be approved by the Food Council prior to the election process for the Co-Chair positions. B. Swallow proposed amendments to the recommendations. After further discussion, M. Male made a motion to approve the recommendations and Terms of Reference as amended by B. Swallow. M. Bencz seconded the motion. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

3. Election of Co-Chairs

H. Quan directed the nomination and voting process for the election of the Co-Chairs. H. Quan called for nominations. B. Swallow nominated M. Bencz, seconded by M. LaRue. M. Bencz respectfully declined the nomination. D. Bajer





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nominated K. Franke, seconded by C. Rakowski. K. Franke accepted the nomination. T. Lynch-Staunton nominated C. Rakowski. C. Rakowski accepted the nomination. M. Dear nominated D. Bajer and S. Chunara. D. Bajer accepted the nomination. S. Chunara accepted the nomination. M. Male made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by C. Rakowski. All were in favour and the motion was carried.

H. Quan invited the four nominees to speak briefly about themselves and their platforms as potential Co-Chairs. After their short speeches, H. Quan passed around ballots to each member to write down their two choices for Co-Chairs. Once all ballots were cast, H. Quan tallied the votes on the whiteboard, with Y. Pronovost acting as scrutineer.

The results of the vote indicated that K. Franke and D. Bajer received the most votes. M. Male moved to accept K. Franke and D. Bajer as the newly elected Co-Chairs of the Food Council. M. Bencz seconded the motion and all were in favour. The motion was carried.

H. Quan handed the Chair of the meeting to D. Bajer, who accepted.

4. Measurement Working Group Report

D. Bajer invited the Measurement Working Group members to present their report. M. Dear and B. Swallow provided an overview of the measurement working group's discussions and meetings. Comments and questions were invited from all Food Council members. Additional suggestions were provided to the group on their direction. It was agreed that the Measurement Working Group should carry out their work as discussed, to develop a perception survey with Administration to determine what Edmontonians believe has changed with respect to the local food scene. It was agreed that the Measurement Working Group will communicate regularly by email with the rest of the Council so that there are opportunities between meetings for members to provide input.

C.J. Stanton agreed to join the Measurement Working Group to assist.

Supper break. Thanks to Mercer's Catering.

5. Urban Hens Pilot Project - CONSULTATION ITEM - 6:00 - 6:30

K. Scott presented the results of the Urban Hens Pilot Project. K. Scott then posed questions and invited discussion and comments from the Food Council





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members about the project. Feedback and input were provided to K. Scott for consideration in the preparation of the report to City Council in November.

6. Regional Local Food Demand Assessment

CONSULTATION ITEM - 7:00 - 8:00

M. Lee and E. Markus presented on the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry project to assess the demand for local food using in depth consumer surveys. Feedback and discussion were invited and Food Council members were encouraged to provide feedback by email to E. Markus.

7. Meeting frequency and times

A discussion was held regarding the most suitable frequency and times for Food Council meetings. After some thoughtful considerations were tabled, it was agreed that for the time being it would be best to schedule two additional meetings before the year is over.

ACTION: H. Quan agreed to coordinate a meeting for October and one for early December.

8. Media training for Food Council members

H. Quan introduced the requirement for new members and especially new Co-Chairs to attend a media training session. Three dates were offered, however, since one of the Co-Chairs left the meeting early, no date was finalized.

ACTION: H. Quan agreed to coordinate a session as soon as possible so that the training session can be organized.

9. Closing remarks

Due to time constraints, the remaining agenda items (listed below) were deferred to the next meeting. D. Bajer provided closing remarks and adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Deferred items:

- News and sharing - STANDING ITEM
- fresh Implementation Update - STANDING ITEM
- 2016 Work Plan





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- Collaboration opportunities with other Capital Region counties and municipal districts
- EFC and AFC overlap and connections
- Bill 202 - Alberta Local Food Act
- Environmental Advisory Committee and Blatchford
- Northlands Agriculture Committee
- Eat Think Vote
- End Poverty Edmonton Strategy & Edmonton Food Council