



EDMONTON FOOD COUNCIL

Minutes

March 26, 2015 - McKernan Community Hall, 11341 - 78 Avenue

Present:

M. Bencz, K. Franke, M. Bailey, M. Male, B. Swallow, J. Fisk, M. Dear, M. LaRue

Absent:

C. Sikora, D. Bajer

Also in attendance:

A. Kulinski, Business Director, Poultry Research Centre
K. Scott, Coordinator, Animal Care and Control Centre, Community Standards Branch
J. Chase, Senior Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch
H. Quan, Principal Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch
M. Melfi, Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch

1. Welcome

M. Bailey called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

2. Approval of previous Minutes - STANDING ITEM

M. Bailey invited everyone to review the previous Minutes for approval. M. Male made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by J. Fisk. There was no opposition and the motion was carried.

3. News and sharing - STANDING ITEM

A number of participants took turns sharing relevant news and information with the group.

4. Urban Beekeeping - CONSULTATION ITEM

M. Bailey and H. Quan welcomed and introduced K. Scott from the Community Standards Branch to begin the presentation and consultation on beekeeping. This was the second consultation held with the Food Council. K. Scott provided a brief update on the status of beekeeping in Edmonton, including the results of the Community Services Committee meeting with City Council on Monday March 23. K. Scott then presented several key questions to the Food Council



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members for their consideration and input. Over the course of approximately one hour, multiple Food Council members provided valuable feedback to K. Scott for consideration in the revisions of the regulatory changes that will be presented again to City Council in mid-April. The discussions also highlighted important issues to address in the implementation of the new beekeeping program.

5. Heritage Chickens Program - DISCUSSION ITEM

A. Kulinski provided a thorough and informative presentation of the Heritage Chickens Program at the Poultry Research Centre at the University of Alberta. Food Council members were given the opportunity to ask questions to learn more, and discuss the possible connections between the Heritage Chickens Program and the implementation of *fresh*.

6. *fresh* Implementation Report - STANDING ITEM

H. Quan delivered the update on the implementation activities of *fresh* and the relevant changes since the last update. Time was provided for Food Council members to ask questions for clarification and discuss possible future direction of the work under *fresh*. As a result of the discussion and the observation of potential convergence of factors related to urban agriculture, the Food Council members agreed to make a recommendation to Administration:

That Administration assess the scope of work required to provide an inventory of vacant private and public lots that would be suitable for urban agriculture uses, including the provision of resources and services required to enable those vacant lots to be activated for urban agriculture.

ACTION: H. Quan agreed to follow up on this recommendation and provide an update to the Food Council at the June meeting.

7. Governance Committee Report - Recruitment and Co-Chair Positions

J. Fisk delivered the Governance Committee report and explained the process underway to recruit new members for September. J. Fisk explained that a total of 26 applications were received but six were incomplete and were not therefore considered. The remaining 20 applications were reviewed and selections were made for interviews, which would be held over the course of April. After the interview process is complete, final selections will be made for recommendation to the Food Council, and then for recommendation to



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Administration. The target date to announce new appointments is May 15, 2015. J. Fisk also added that succession for the Co-Chair positions will need to be discussed at the June meeting.

8. Measurement Working Group Report

B. Swallow and M. Dear delivered the report on the progress of the Measurement Working Group, explaining the path of the conversations at the two meetings that were held by the Working Group. A draft framework for measuring projects initiated under the implementation of fresh was presented as a starting point.

ACTION: Food Council members were invited to provide their feedback on the direction taken by the Working Group and on the draft framework itself, and to send that feedback to the Working Group. The Working Group agreed to continue to meet and refine their work based on the feedback received.

9. Closing Remarks

There was a brief discussion about preparations for the next meeting. Members were reminded , after which M. Bailey adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.