12/7/2017

DC Food Policy Council, 12/6 Full Council Meeting
Meeting Notes

Notes from Breakout Groups

Members in Attendance: Laine Cidlowski, Alex Ashbrook, Alex Moore, Eric Kessler, Caesar Layton, Tambra Raye Stevenson, Chris Bradshaw
Ex-Officio Members in Attendance: Dan Guilbeault DOEE, Lauren Adkins DSLBD, Anthony DeLorenzo DGS, Kristen Rowe DCPS

Welcome & Updates

Director Cidlowski updated the group on the status of several pending pieces of legislation and announcements, including:

- East End grocery legislation: The legislation passed its first vote on December 5th, 2017, the version that was voted on is found online here: http://lims.dccouncil.us/Download/37703/B22-0202-Engrossment.pdf
- Healthy Students Amendment Act: No Committee mark-up has been scheduled yet following the hearing, we'll let you know as soon as one is scheduled.
- Save Good Food Act Legislation: The DC Food Recovery Network has started a petition on Change.org to ask Councilmember Jack Evans to move the Save Good Food Amendment Act through his Finance and Revenue Committee. The bill must get through his committee before it can go to the full Council for a vote. This bill has been languishing in committees long enough. Let's get this bill moving and stop wasting food in DC! Please sign the petition and share with your networks. Sign the petition here: https://www.change.org/p/dc-councilmember-jack-evans-urge-councilmember-evans-to-support-dc-s-save-good-food-amendment-act-of-2017?recruiter=719925089&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_page&utm_term=share_petition

Updates & Announcements

- Healthy Tots Grant Open Now: Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Health and Wellness is now accepting applications for the District of Columbia Healthy Tots Wellness Grant. The purpose of the Healthy Tots Wellness Grant is to support the dissemination of healthy eating, physical activity, and wellness programming in the D.C. early child care community. OSSE is awarding funding to entities that can provide technical assistance and help implement wellness programming at targeted community based child care facilities in the District of Columbia. The selected applicants will be required to build capacity and sustainable partnerships within the early learning community. Applicants will be awarded funding to implement programming in these six areas.
    - Gardening/Environmental Sustainability
    - Farm to Childcare/Local Food Procurement
    - Nutrition Education
    - Physical Activity & Education
    - Staff Wellness & Center Wellness Policy

  - Family Style Dining
- For more information on the Healthy Tots Wellness Grant, click here: https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/NoticeDetail.aspx?NoticeId=66172
- Sustainable DC 2.0 Planning Process – is ongoing the next meeting will be December 12th. To sign up for more information and participate in the working groups and community meetings sign up here: http://www.sustainabledc.org/in-dc/sdc2-0/
- DC's Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) is working with FEMA to conduct a study of supply chain resilience in the grocery sector over the next 6 months. HSEMA will present on the study at the next FPC meeting.
- Proposals for Rooting DC (DC's free gardening conference) are open now, registration will open in January, the conference will be held on March 13tth, 2018. More details online here: https://www.rootingdc.org/
- You can take a tour of Coastal Sunbelt Produce: On Wednesday January 17th, 10am-2pm Coastal Sunbelt, one of the region's largest food distributors is hosting an open house and tours. Please RSVP to Jacquelyn Daly by January 3rd jdaly@coastalsunbelt.com
- The DCFPC has been asked to weigh in on Farm Bill proposed legislation and marker bills. Director Cidlowski shared some handouts with summaries of the proposed Farm to School federal legislation and FARMS marker legislation.

Presentation – 1 Year Accomplishments & Background on the Food Policy Council Working Groups

Director Cidlowski presented on the goals and accomplishments of the Food Policy Council in its first year and a half of operation. The presentation covers DC's food system by the numbers, an overview of accomplishments, responsibilities of the FPC, the goals and strategic priorities of each working group (See powerpoint posted online).

Community Input on Priorities - Breakouts

The meeting then broke into two rounds of breakout groups to discuss the main Sustainable DC food goals that guide the DCFPC's work and priorities for the coming year and the group to focus on. The following are notes from those breakout discussions.

Local Food Business & Labor Development Working Group

SHORT TERM – Support the FPC food economy assessment by providing input, direction, and assistance with research. Study the food policies, regulations, and legislation that affect food businesses and compile for easier sharing with the business community.

SHORT TERM – Assist with the Cottage Food Act guidelines, regulations, and implementation of the new law. Assist with marketing the Cottage Food Act business opportunity to community members, new and existing businesses and work with the Department of Health.

LONG TERM – Support food polices that support FEED-DC Act supermarket tax incentive and food retailers.

Sustainable DC Food Goal 3: Develop the food industry into a strong and viable economic sector. Target: By 2032, produce or obtain 25% of food within a 100-mile radius.

- Short term
  - Employment
    - Bubble?
    - Where are the workers going to come from?
    - Training/standards/access/salary/wage increase
  - Sane business development practices / permitting / food system
  - Ease of doing business
    - Rent
    - Labor
    - Permitting
  - Co-ops model - ? – urban model
  - Grocery bill - ?
  - Do food workers apply to workforce housing?
- Long term
  - Re: Sustainable DC Food Goal 3
    - Need to define "food industry" and "produce." – what do we mean?
      - Why is "production" important?
    - "25% of food" = arcane
    - "100-mile radius" and "strong and viable economic sector" – should we move to a foodshed mentality?
  - Employment?
  - Sales/GP
  - Wage generation – city/region
  - Business creation

Food Equity, Access, Health & Nutrition Education Working Group

SHORT TERM – Focus on overhauling FEED DC Act to help meet goal of promoting the development of full-service supermarkets in underserved communities as well as including nutrition education and funding to meet its goals; examples may include cooperative support, smaller grocery support, etc.

SHORT TERM - Promote city's use of federal nutrition programs (SNAP, WIC, school meals, summer meals, child care meals, and out-of-school time meals) and maximize city's leveraging of federal dollars.

LONG TERM – Oversee and assist the implementation of FEED-DC. Solidify plans for supermarket developments in Wards 7 & 8. Protect and strengthen use of federal and local nutrition programs in DC through adoption of policies and work to maintain entitlement structure of the programs.

Sustainable DC Food Goal 2: Ensure universal access to secure, nutritious, and affordable food supplies. Target: By 2032, ensure 75% of residents live within ¼ mile of a community garden, farmers' market and/or healthy corner store.

- Re: SHORT TERM 2:
  - More specifically define "promote city's use" to include training, enrollment processes/access points, external partnerships
- Re: SHORT TERM 1:
  - More clearly define what it means to "focus on" and "overhaul" – currently, very unclear how you'd meet those actions or measures
- Re: Sustainable DC Food Goal 2:
  - Current data on Sustainable DC goal?
  - Missing affordability component
  - Embeds payment into health care system/Medicaid waivers in terms of medical care
  - Redlining → Feed DC Act
  - Sustainable DC – nutrition education
  - Study
    - Overlay of economy
    - Overlay of FI
  - 75% of each ward – full-service grocery stores
  - Delivery services, CSA buying clubs, food co-ops – year-round
  - Activities affordable, not just physical access that's important
- Working group suggestions:
  - Continuity between meetings
  - Receive info on meetings ahead of time
    - Hard to give input on first seeing something
  - Those willing to work don't walk away with projects in between meetings
- Strategic plan goals:
  - Include transportation & delivery – study/improve
- Specificity
- Short-term accountability, streamlining process
- Equitable access
  - Not in sphere for everyone to access, access is more than just physical access
  - Buying clubs

<u>Sustainable Food Procurement Working Group</u>

SHORT TERM – Focus on school food including, how we can make school food procurement processes and policies more transparent. Work with the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) to update the Healthy Schools Act (HSA), and convene stakeholders around central kitchen facility included in the HSA.

LONG TERM –Study the Good Food Policy program, work with DC Public Schools and other partners determine if the program is a good fit for DC.

LONG TERM – Focus on wasted food in the District by learning more about the scope of the issue, opportunities to shift policy, and opportunities to engage. Determine role for DCFPC in food waste issue and collaborate with partner organizations to advance food waste.

- SDC 2.0 Goal
    - USDA & EPA Wasted Food Goal 50% by 2050
        - Leverage DPW stats on waste
        - Framework for measuring & establishing baseline
        - Restaurant, grocery, consumer waste
        - Recovery vs. waste reduction
- Central Kitchen Facility
    - Study of best practices (WG) / Build it (SDG)
    - Input framework for shaping central kitchen
- Institutional Procurement
    - ~5% of institutions sourcing local
        - 50% of LEAs getting local reimbursement
            - Adding for aftercare?
    - Add explicit language on regional capacity building to support local sourcing
    - Consumer data – quality, consumption
    - Other indicators – CO2, H2O, soil health, biodiversity, air quality
- Work w/ Food Recovery Working Group (FRWG) on specific policy pushes
    - Waste diversion?
    - Save Good Food
    - Food Recovery Working Group – January goal setting meeting
- Food Insecurity
    - Information, where to access
    - Move beyond word of mouth
    - Facilitate waste diversion
- Goal – set goals

Urban Agriculture & Food System Education Working Group

SHORT TERM – Focus on the implementation of the existing D.C. Urban Farming and Food Security Act of 2014 legislation and collaborating with DC agencies to get land in the hands of local farmers. Pursue potential amendments to it and determining which other specific fixes may be needed to influence and improve it for local farmers.

LONG TERM – Provide support for key challenges for urban agriculture including land access, barriers to production, community education, community garden training and support.

LONG TERM – Assess the current state of food system education in DC and collaborate with partners to expand and systematize it as a core part of education for DC's youth.

Sustainable DC Food Goal 1: Increase agricultural land uses within the District. Target: By 2032, put 20 additional acres of land under cultivation for growing food.

- Re: LONG TERM 2:

    - Why? Short?
- Re: Sustainable DC Food Goal 1:
    - Acreage figure – reflects reality?
    - Employment? Production?
- Finalize tax abatement
    - 90% when used for UA
    - Usable & accessible & broad
    - DCRA -? – OTR? – who will regulate it?
- Continue implementation of Urban Ag Act – MOVE FORWARD
    - Create more public sites qualify
- USDA Grant Access
    - UDC? Agency? DPR?
    - Ease of implementation?
    - No office to apply
    - Atlanta model???
- Increase community garden space?
    - Access?
    - Ease?

Crosscutting Policies Issue Area

- Hiring good talent from communities affected
    - Minimal representation Ward 7 & 8. Hiring how to bring into the conversation
- Brainstorming ideas on how to bring more people to the table, how to connect the dots with people
    - Grocery Walk
    - Focus groups
    - Conference
- Transportation Issues & Food Policy (food access)
- Importance of land use
    - Zoning issues (e.g., mixed use)
- Gentrification and its impact on low-income people
- Fundraising
    - Operating budget for DCFPC – conferences – workshops
- Food Resiliency Plan for DC
    - See Food Resiliency plan for Baltimore
    - Natural disasters
    - Food hubs
- Food Recovery Plan
    - See Montgomery County food recovery
- Commercial kitchens
    - Questions: can these assist in disaster situations? Can people go there if no kitchen at home? Staffing?
- Look at food more holistically

- Opportunity for cross-training on food related topics from people in food movement
- Creating intentional spaces for food policy – environment for cultivating food work: know about each other's efforts, pull them together

Communications, Engagement & Events Issue Area

- You found us through…
  - GW
  - Word of mouth
  - Stakeholder orgs
  - Church
  - DC Greens
  - Cultural institutions
- Pain points
  - Restaurant Biz concerns
  - Faith/Food Justice interests
- Audiences
  - Wards 7/8
    - Parents
    - Government assistance beneficiaries
    - Homeowners
- Format
  - Contests/competitions
  - 360 videos
  - "Save the Food" videos
  - Social media
- Messages
  - Food budget/home economics

1. **Announcements & Next Steps**
   a. Next DCFPC Public Meeting – February 7th