

Local Food Policy Council
Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2007

Present: Diana Lauzon, Lil Keller, Shawn Valter, Louise Crede, Herb Crede, Scott Worl, Mike Roegge, Dave Moore, Richard Derry, Carrie Edgar, Brenda Derrick

Brenda welcomed those attending and introductions were made.

Brenda announced that there was a need to elect a chair and co-chair for the food policy council. University of Illinois Extension would still assist the group, but electing leadership would be a first step on the way to eventually becoming a not for profit organization. Dave Moore volunteered to assist in a co-chair capacity and it was suggested that Greg Billingsley serve as the second co-chair. All those present agreed and Brenda will follow-up with Greg to determine his interest in the position.

Lengthy discussion was then held in regards to determining priorities for the food policy council. Many felt that we needed to decide what we meant by the word local. Does it mean sustainable, organic, defines a geographic location, etc. Brenda will bring several definitions that we can discuss as a group at the next meeting.

It was also decided that we should name the council. Lengthy discussion was also held and it was decided that the name should reflect a regional approach, thus Tri-State Food Policy Council was adopted as the new name.

In looking at priorities several areas were discussed. It was also mentioned that whatever is chosen as the priorities should be activities that are simple, doable, and can demonstrate success. This success would then potentially breed more interest in the council and begin to define who and what we do. Priorities mentioned included the following:

- Increase the awareness of the food policy council
- Increase the awareness of the area Farmers Markets
- Promote Locally Grown
- Develop relationships with select tri-state school districts to increase their purchase and use of locally grown products
- Work with the HQBD or other appropriate groups to identify other options than moving the Quincy Farmers Market to the Oakley-Lindsey Center for the three summer park schedule conflicts (Gus Macker, Midsummer Arts Faire, Blues Fest)

It was recommended that the full committee be sent a survey with the next meeting announcement to gauge their interest in the priorities identified. Ask the committee members to come to the next meeting prepared to discuss the issues listed, further prioritize the issues, and identify specific activities or tasks the council could pursue. In addition, the membership should be asked what issues they feel that they can contribute to, or have an interest in. Dave and Greg will work on this to submit with the next meeting announcement.

Brenda also brought up the issue of trying to standardize meeting dates. Everyone thought it would be a good idea to do this so members can get dates on their calendars. It was suggested though, that we flip the times of the meetings so that we can fully accommodate the schedules of our membership. For example, if the second Tuesday of the month was selected as the standardized date, we should have an evening time every other month, then a morning or afternoon time the other months. Dave and Greg will work on this and provide us the schedule at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.