

**MINUTES**  
**LINN COUNTY FOOD SYSTEMS COUNCIL**  
**Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

The Linn County Food Systems Council meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in conference room 3A/3B at the Jean Oxley Public Service Center, 935 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT** Laura Seyfer, At-Large, Co-Chair

:

RaeAnn Gordon, ISU Extension  
Lynette Richards, Restaurant/Institution  
Stephanie Schrader, City of Cedar Rapids  
Sofia Mehaffey, Horizons  
Kim Guardado, HACAP  
Lynne Abbott, Linn County Public Health  
Cindy Fiester, Linn County Public Health

**ABSENT:** August Stolba, Feed Iowa First, Co-Chair  
Emma Johnson, Grower/Producer  
Chris Thoms, At-Large  
Pam Oldham, Medical Provider/Registered Dietician

**OTHERS** Carter Oswood, Feed Iowa First

**PRESENT**

:

**STAFF:** Mike Tertinger, Linn County Planning and Development, Staff  
Jessie Black, Recording Secretary  
Ryan Sampica, Recording Secretary  
Jake Kundert , IVRCD

**New Member Introductions**

All of the council members introduced themselves to the group.

**Election of Officers**

Motion by Mehaffey, second by Schrader, to re-appoint Stolba and Seyfer as Co-Chairs for 2020. All members present voting aye.

Motion by Schrader, second by Guardado, to appoint Mehaffey as Secretary for 2020. All members present voting aye.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Gordon, seconded by Mehaffey and carried, all members present voting yes, to approve the November 21, 2019 LCFSC minutes as submitted.

## **Public Comment**

None

## **Staff Announcements**

Tertinger presented the group with an invitation from Dewald to attend the Johnson County Food Policy Council 2020 Public Forum, Land Access & Beyond, on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the South Slope Cooperative Community Center in North Liberty.

Tertinger also informed the group that every month, Cathy Nyquist from New Venture Advisors, puts together a list of interesting information regarding food systems policy work for distribution. He asked that anyone who wishes to receive said list add their names to the list serv.

## **Budget**

Tertinger said the current account balance is around \$26,000; all of which has been spoken for. New allocation of \$4,000 will be distributed July 1.

## **New Business**

### **a.) Ranking 2020 FSC Priority Issues/Ideas/Recommendations**

Tertinger passed out a complete list of Linn County Food System Council objectives and asked that each member of the group rank the five they find most important. He will compile the lists and forward to Ilsa Dewald, with the intent to present to the state as a statewide coalition.

### **FY2020 Project Plan Updates**

#### **a.) FSC Website**

Black passed on suggestions made by Britt Nielsen, Communications Specialist, regarding formatting of bios on LCFSC webpage. Seyfer will email bio template to all members and ask them to resubmit information within the next 30 days. Seyfer will also re-format members' photos and send to Nielsen.

#### **b.) Come to the Table Summit**

Gordon, Koepke, Mehaffey and Richards met earlier in the week to discuss. They agreed that putting together a summit "series" would be a lot of work for a volunteer group. Koepke suggested pursuing some sort of corporate sponsor or applying for a grant to fund an event planner. Koepke thought \$5-\$10k would suffice. Ideally, the **subcommittee would like to have a keynote speaker for each ½ day event.** They also discussed the possibility of collaborating with Linn County Public Health for their food

recovery event planned for June. Schrader suggested using the Photovoice project during event. Koepke said subcommittee will meet again within the next 30 days.

**c.) Food System Assessment**

Tertinger said 12 people have been interviewed so far; Scott Koepke, Stacey Walker, Laura Krouse, and RJ Carson to name a few. He added that NVA has requested a stakeholder list. Tertinger asked that all members of FSC provide contact information for list of stakeholders by the end of the day on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Stakeholders will be surveyed and potentially included on a list of invites to a community meeting. Langston expressed concern for the method of survey delivery to stakeholders, explaining that as a generic email, it would be very easy for stakeholders to bypass or brush email under the rug. Schrader added that survey participation will be incentivized. Tertinger said that Linn County Planning & Development will send a preemptive email to all stakeholders, notifying them of survey. Koepke wondered if there was another way to reach out to stakeholders, as not all of them use email. Tertinger will check into.

Langston and Guardado were added to the Food System Assessment subcommittee.

**d.) Ag Lenders Conversation with FSC**

Gordon plans to have two ag lenders at February FSC meeting.

**e.) Iowa Association of Food Policy Councils**

Ilsa Dewald is rescheduling conference call for February.

**f.) Quarterly Update**

Seyfer told the council she will update the Board of Supervisors on FSC's "strategic doing" on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Langston suggested inviting a supervisor to an FSC meeting; he will take it upon himself to do so.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 10:29 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Approved,

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Jessie Black, Recording Secretary

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Laura Seyfer, Co-Chair