

Marin Food Policy Council

Meeting Notes

July 19, 2016

[HHS campus](#)

Next Marin Food Policy Council meeting: August 16, 2016, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. [HHS campus](#)

**Attendees:**

*Steering Committee* – Becky Gershon (SF-Marin Food Bank); Bonnie Nielsen (UCCE Marin); Julia Van Soelen Kim (UCCE Marin); Lori Davis (Sanzuma); Steve Schwartz (Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative)

*Committee Members* – Anjurle Duchaussee (HHS Public Assistance); Casey Poldino (Zero Waste Marin); Cio Hernandez (HHS); Kathy Koblick (HHS Public Health); Marv Zauderer (ExtraFood.org); Miguel Villarreal (Novato USD); Sheila Kopf (SF-Marin Food Bank)

*Guests* – Clare Gupta (UC Davis); Jennifer D’Ambrosio (HHS intern); Pricilla Vanliew (Marin County EHS)

**Welcome and Council Representative Announcements** – Lori Davis and Alexandra Danino

- Lori Davis: Sanzuma fundraiser August 4, Zumba in the Park August 6
- Janet Brown: San Rafael School District is removing school gardens from schools; should MFPC brainstorm on how to stop this? YES, Council agrees on interest for a future agenda item
- Sheila Kopf: recent Nutrition Edu course for senior caregivers was successful; also mobile pantry pilot program in Pt. Reyes Station aimed at families living on ranches (~ 5 - 8 ranches per week) to be launched in the beginning of 2017, can present more in the future
- Miguel Villarreal: launching Wellness in the Schools cooking labs this fall, first school district on the West Coast to run this program
- Casey Poldino: CalRecycle grant for solutions for food waste, proposals due August 12
- Marv Zauderer: Sausalito Film Series showing ‘Just Eat It’ with panel discussion hosted by Doug McConnell at Cavallo Point on October 30, impact films to benefit ExtraFood.org
- Julia Van Soelen Kim: Marin Co. Youth Commission 2016 application process is open now; COM class on Marin agriculture starting this fall (Mondays 6-9pm)

**Equitable Access Report** – Becky Gershon, Julia Van Soelen Kim, Lori Davis

PowerPoint presentation feedback:

- More clarity on policy priorities vs accomplishments in the area of Food Production, as it was with Food Access and Food Assistance
- What is the status on the earlier HEAL discussion on joint use agreements with school districts? Present at the monthly meeting with all school superintendents and discuss joint use agreements, school gardens, CalFresh, etc?
- Key reasons CalFresh enrollment is so low in Marin? In most other states it is a state-run program, whereas each county in CA operates their own programs independently. Different counties have different outreach challenges with connecting with their low-income residents (students, immigrants, elderly, etc) and dealing with stigma as well as misconceptions and fears. The lack of dual-enrollment with Medical and CalFresh is very detrimental and a huge missed opportunity. Explain the WHY of Food Assistance, connecting the problems with the solutions.
- Need more clear take-away of what folks viewing the presentation can do in response to this work. Something like: 'Here are a few things coming up to be excited about or get involved in.' General target audiences: BOS and city supervisors, as well as potential funders, but the presentation has been made to be tailored with specific audiences in mind. Drive home a message on the last slide?

#### Latest accomplishments in policy implementation

- Access Update: Target will be coming to Marin City – benefit to food access or not? People continue to advocate for a full-service grocery store. Funders meeting with the Federal Reserve Bank to look at funding a full-service grocery store, and CDA committed to write a letter for the funders packet to show their resolve to streamline permitting process.
- Access Update: healthy retail projects continue in the Canal and Marin City.
- Access Update: there is greater funding for Market Match and potential to expand beyond farmers markets.
- Assistance Update: 3-4 events scheduled before the 2017 school year starts where families are invited to come register for Free & Reduced lunch and receive assistance in signing up for CalFresh at the same time.
- Assistance Update: the County is being more conscious about scheduling interviews at convenient times for applicants. Call wait time has decreased dramatically due to restructuring and staffing of the call center. Striving for on-demand interviews like other counties are doing.
- Production Update: current work on opening up access to school gardens for community use.

- Production Update: it has been relatively easy to get seed and supply donations from hardware stores.
- Production Update: increased collaboration and coordination among key County players in community food production
- Production Update: Sanzuma's Farm to Cafeteria Program at San Pedro School is selling produce to the school for school lunches, with funding through another 2-3 years.

### **Equity Conference – Cio Hernandez**

Housing, economics, education, and food security identified as 4 main buckets.

- Can MFPC take the lead on food security? Involves: November 9 community tours (of our design), and November 10 conference presentation, along with a pre-conference packet. **\*\*Cio and Bonnie to get a paragraph descriptor to the Council for folks interested in joining the existing Equity Access committee in anticipation of this event.** Madeline and Anjurle are interested in joining.
- Regular Equitable Access committee meeting meet an hour before each MFPC meeting

### **MFPC Business – Julia Van Soelen Kim**

Approve MFPC Governance document

- Governance document is as final as it will get for now, and we should begin using it. We will refine and tweak annually as necessary. No one present abstained or didn't approve; **GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT IS APPROVED.**

### **CA Food Policy Council Report – Steve Schwartz**

- AB 1321: We've been working for a couple years now on getting nutrition incentives dollars approved at the state level for programs like Market Match. Victory: \$5 million dollars awarded. Biggest accomplishment of the CA FPC to date.
- CA FPC's legislative report tracking 20 bills most relevant to food policy and the related voting history of legislators: legislative report card. This year's report will come out in October or November. Roots of Change had been the backbone of staffing the CA FPC, will be asking FPCs to vote on whether they want percentages to be included in the report card. Might it be tricky to vote consistently in favor of such a broad topic as food access and security? Steve thinks percentages are a step in the right direction to making legislators more accountable for how they vote on relevant issues. Consensus reached to support including percentages in the report card.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.**

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