

Marin Food Policy Council  
Meeting Notes  
January 16, 2018  
HHS Wellness Campus, 3240 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the HHS campus, Room 110**

**Attendance:**

**\* = Voting members**

X	Alexandra Danino, SF-Marín Food Bank*		Lorenzo Cordova, BOS*
	Audrey Peck, Redwood High Sus. Ag, Pgm*	X	Lori Davis, Sanzuma*
X	Becky Gershon, SF-Marín Food Bank*		Madelene McCann, Marin Child Care Council
X	Bonnie Nielsen, UCCE		Madeline Hope, West Marin Waste Education*
	Bonny White, West Marin Comm Services*		Marv Zauderer, ExtraFood.org
X	Casey Poldino, Zero Waste Marin*	X	Miguel Villarreal, Novato USD*
	David Lewis, UCCE		Mimi Choudhury, AIM*
	Elaini Negussie, HHS Nutrition Wellness		Rachel Stover, HHS Public Assistance
	Felicia Chavez, Systems Thinking Marin	X	Reba Meigs, HHS Public Health*
	Gail Crain, CAM*		Sheila Kopf, SF-Marín Food Bank
	Gueidi Beltran, WIC*		Steve Schwartz, Interfaith Sus Food Collaborative*
	Heather Bettini, CAM		Susan Martinelli, WIC
	Janet Brown, AllStar Organics*		Teresa Fogolini, North Bay Children’s Center*
	Jessica Bazan, YLI*		Terrie Green, Marin City Comm Services District*
X	Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE*		Veda Florez, Latino Marin*
	June Farmer, Marin City CX3*		
X	Kathy Carver, ExtraFood.org*		<i>Guests:</i>
	Kathy Koblick, HHS Public Health		Zach Martinez, Redwood High Sus. Ag. pgm
X	Laura Hettwer, HHS Public Assistance*		
X	Lauren Klein, Comm. & School Gardens		

*24 voting members + 10 alternates = 34 total*

**Welcome and Announcements – Julia Van Soelen Kim**

- Julia: Marin IJ article on the launch of FoodNOW app
- Kathy: 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Heart of Marin awards – ExtraFood award in Achievement and Excellence for a non-profit in Marin County. Also recognized for help during the North Bay fires (food to evacuation centers) – money to reimburse for the extra staff time used.

**CA FPC Update – Julia Van Soelen Kim**

- Steve in Sacramento representing MFPC right now at the bi-annual meeting
- Releasing 2017 CA Food and Ag Legislation Tracker and Scorecard, and recognizing a legislator who has been a leader in the field: Senator Mike Maguire from our district. Perhaps will invite Maguire to a future MFPC meeting.

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

- Steering Committee submitting a proposal to MCF for HEAL for older adults, looks promising that we will be awarded \$120,000-150,000 in funding for 6 collaborative members, some of which could support MFPC going forward. If we are awarded this, it will affect some of our focus in 2018. The contract would start in March and run for a year. Should hear back in a couple weeks. Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative, UCCE, SF-Marín Food Bank, AIM, Marin City Community Services District, Health and Human Services Marin are the organizations involved.

## **2017 Reflections and Planning for 2018 – Julia Van Soelen Kim**

- Member survey: printed copy to fill out today, and will be emailed to the full Council as well
- **What worked well, MFPC should continue in 2018:**
  - Space for collaboration
  - Members have a powerful voice at the table
  - Appreciate guest speakers: learn about new topics, make new connections in both directions, increase public awareness of the MFPC
- **What could use some change, MFPC should try new in 2018:**
  - We have a large membership but many people don't come... Advertise MFPC successes highlights to put it out there more (quarterly or bi-annually)? A lot of people don't understand what MFPC does – clarification of and education about MFPC mission/vision (elevator speech).
  - Break out work groups at full council meetings (either a half hour each agenda, or only certain meetings, time after speaker presentations depending on the topics, or...?) – the idea was well-received by members present
  - Clarify mission/vision/direction so that break out groups are working toward a clear goal
  - Build capacity for shared leadership
  - Directly invite individual members to councils, especially important meetings such as the first of the year
  - More follow-up on past presentations and actions taken since – **build in as an agenda item**
  - More time for networking
- **Questions:**
  - Why don't all our members attend meetings? Why do people not see the value in MFPC meetings? How to reach those people?
  - How to make sure existing folks participate, and how to reach to new members?
  - Make a concerted effort to advertise, and "market" what we do, per our website and mission, or change some of it. (Sub-committee on this? Casey Poldino?)
- Brainstorm ideas for 2018 focus areas (shared top three):

- Continuing topics:
  - Urban ag and municipal policies (including commercial aspect) - DIVE IN DEEPER INTO POLICY
  - Follow-up and updates to BOS
- New topics:
  - Education and school farms (make time on a school farm/garden a requirement similar to community service hours, required class or class time on nutrition and food waste education like farming elective at Davidson School or culinary labs in Novato); school food (nutrition and waste education); equity of kids having access to food grown in Marin. *Policy* that it's part of the school day (tricky because it's not a part of testing). Educating the parents and administration (whole community) of Marin County about all the farm to school work that is happening around the nation. Affluent foundations/individuals/organizations could subsidize healthy foods...? Would it be helpful or important to students to know about this work going on behind the scenes? - DIVE IN DEEPER INTO POLICY
  - Senior access to healthy food - LEARN STATUS OF OTHER EFFORTS
  - Process and distribution of food in Marin county (get the whole food systems picture) – EDUCATIONAL TOPIC
  - Equitable Access updates to full council and BOS
- Experts: superintendents,

**Call for Steering Committee Members – Alexandra Danino and Lori Davis**

- Currently on the SC: Alexandra Danino, Lori Davis, Julia Van Soelen Kim, Reba Meigs, Bonnie Nielsen
- Nominations: Kathy Carver
- Potential element of membership: submit candidates for rotating Steering Committee membership. Rotating SC membership idea... Future group discussion on makeup and organization of the Steering Committee.
- Will email a list of SC nominees before the February meeting, when we will vote in the new leadership body

**Closing – Alexandra Danino and Lori Davis**

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

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**Meeting dates for 2018:** February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16