

Marin Food Policy Council
Meeting Notes
July 17, 2018
HHS Wellness Campus, 3240 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the HHS campus, Room 110

Attendance:

*** = Voting members**

	Alexandra Danino, SF-Marín Food Bank*		Lorenzo Cordova, BOS*
	Audrey Peck, Redwood High Sus. Ag.*	X	Lori Davis, Sanzuma*
X	Becky Gershon, SF-Marín Food Bank*	X	Madelene McCann, Marin Child Care Council
X	Bonnie Nielsen, UCCE		Madeline Hope, West Marin Waste Education*
	Bonny White, West Marin Com Services*		Marv Zauderer, ExtraFood.org
X	Casey Poldino, Zero Waste Marin*		Miguel Villarreal, Novato USD*
	Elaini Negussie, HHS Nutrition Wellness		Paula Freeman, Covia
X	Felicia Chavez, Systems Thinking Marin		Rachel Stover, HHS Public Assistance
	Gail Crain, CAM*		Reba Meigs, HHS Public Health*
	Gueidi Beltran, WIC*		Sheila Kopf, SF-Marín Food Bank
	Heather Bettini, CAM	X	Steve Schwartz, Interfaith Sus Food Collaborative*
	Janet Brown, AllStar Organics*		Susan Martinelli, WIC
	Jessica Bazan, YLI*		Teresa Fogolini, North Bay Children’s Center*
X	Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE*		Terrie Green, Marin City Comm. Services District*
	June Farmer, Marin City CX3*		
	Karimah Hay, Ag. Institute of Marin		Guests:
	Kathy Carver, ExtraFood.org*	X	Bruce Richard, Envi Forum of Marin
	Kathy Koblick, HHS Public Health	X	Julia Middleton, Conscious Kitchen
	Laura Hettwer, HHS Public Assistance*	X	Olivia Mendieta, Sanzuma
	Lauren Klein, Comm. & School Gardens	X	Toni Prechota, CDPH SNAP ED
X	Liana Orlandi, Ag. Institute of Marin*		

Welcome and Announcements – Lori Davis

- Lori: new farm manager Olivia Mendieta (Sanzuma)
- Julia: 2nd North Bay Food Policy Council Convergence on 6/26/18 was well-received, stay tuned for the 3rd Convening in June or September of 2019
- MAGC Conservation Night 5-7pm UN Sustainable Dev Goals of 2030
- Julia new project manager with Conscious Kitchen, feeding HeadStart camp kids the best food possible, look at how food produced in central kitchen is distributed out
- Liana: Mobile Fm Mkt ribbon buttin 9am at Whistlestop in San Rafael on Thursday 8/9
- Steve: Senior farmers market nutrition pgm, ISFC providing extra incentives to seniors to use the pgm (\$20 from feds, they give \$60 additional dollars to use the pgm – 3:1 match). Have to use federal money by November 30, this money can be used through April 2019. ISFC is putting on a tour to help seniors get to markets and understand how to use the program. ISFC getting the funds from the CA Nutritional Incentives Program. County gives

away 500 coupons every year through partners. Seniors get checks from feds for \$20, ISFC made own checks for seniors to use at farmers markets, getting them at their low income housing facilities.

- Bruce: Environmental Forum of Marin master class in the fall (10 classes) to learn all about environmental issues

New Member Presentations – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- If you've recently applied for MFPC membership and haven't given a new member presentation yet, please let us know.
- Introduce yourself and your org, what issues you work on, relevant projects and programs, any funding associated with this work.
- Liana Orlandi, Agricultural Institute of Marin – Liana's work with Food Systems began with the opening of an organic gelato shop, transitioned to working with Marin Organic doing fundraising and running educational programs. Now with the Agricultural Institute of Marin. AIM operates 7 farmers mkts around the Bay Area for about 35 years, Edu about nutritional and economic benefits of buying.... Believe in helpin small family farms thrive, support healthy local food system. \$ goes farther in local communities when it doesn't go through a distributor. Farm Field Studies (on-farm field trips for K-12 students), free educational tours at farmers markets for seniors and students, classroom visits goal for the coming year (schools need to provide own transportation). Could just do a classroom visit to a preschool. Market Match program where ppl who get CalFresh can use it at the farmers markets and get an additional \$10. Mobile Farmers market to bring fresh produce to Marin. Project to build a permanent fm at the Civic Center (shade, running water, electricity, seating for programs). Partners with comm orgs in each city where they have a fm. Part of a collaborative to meet HEAL objectives, specifically on food access for seniors. Current funding sources: MCF, Ecology Center, and others. Karimah manages Thursday mkt and assists at Sunday mkt, manages the mobile mkt; Mimi runs the Farm Field Studies pgm. Liana on the Steering Committee, AIM was instrumental in founding the MFPC along with HHS and Janet Brown.

CA Food Policy Council Report – Steve Schwartz and Becky Gershon

- SSB labelling bill coming, Steve can present more info at next month's meeting.
- State budget passed, including \$5 million funding for Ting Bill CA Nutritional Incentives program
- Governor Brown and legislature reversed the SSI cashout policy (starting next summer, SSI recipients will be able to apply for CalFresh – advocates have been fighting for this for decades). Biggest opportunity to help low income folks with food in our generation.
- SB 900 Senator Weiner's bill – creates \$9-10 million in state funding to create a pilot project to provide farmers market style incentive matching for people to use at grocery stores (with less than \$10 million in sales a year) on their EBT card when they buy CA grown produce (matched up to \$20/month). Trying to get corner stores to step up and carry more produce.
- Last minute bill to ban municipal SSB taxes. It is now illegal in CA to have a local ballot measure to tax SSB for the next 20 years or so. Basically big soda threatened to put on a

statewide initiative that would make it so that all local ballot measures had to pass by 2/3 vote, which would totally handicap local fundraising. Legislatures felt backed into a corner and banned SSB taxes so that local jurisdictions could retain the ability to pass measures (non-SSB) with a 50% vote. There will be conversations about what to do in the absence of the SSB tax option.

Mid-year Reflection – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- Evaluate break-out group format for continued use over the next 6 months:
 - New format, rather than SC planning meetings for the year: ID three key topics MFPC was interested in focusing on: Farm to School, Urban Ag, and Seniors. Each group planned and hosted a meeting on their topic.
 - Is this small break-out group method working? Are people still interested in these 3 topics?
 - If we continue this way, August would be a planning meeting in the break-out groups, and then each group would take a subsequent meeting in September, October, and November.
 - What has worked well, would like more of?
 - Hear a variety of voices
 - Hear work on the ground
 - Lots of life in the small group work
 - Networking and relationship-building
 - More collaboration with small groups
 - 3 groups was a good amount, couldn't do more given the size of the group
 - What hasn't worked well, would like changed?
 - Not enough time to plan in break-out groups (could use longer chunks of time as well as more frequent times)
 - Small group didn't spend much time focusing on specific asks of the MFPC or next steps (more time could have helped this)
 - Meta-level what is MFPC and its purpose
 - Challenge of small groups when attendance of meetings fluctuates so much.

Break-out group work

- Hone MFPC policy opportunities, asks, and actions to take
 - Can be flexible on how narrow or broad to interpret 'policy opportunities'
 - Exchange contact info in break-out groups
 - August will be another planning meeting to hone specifics of the next three months of agendas (including volunteers for snack, clean-up, and set-up for your group's meeting)

Systems Thinking Learning Opportunity in the August Meeting – Felicia Chavez

- Anything specific that MFPC would like to learn about?
- MFPC uses a systems lens to look at the food system... how can we actualize this more, improve as a multi-stakeholder group in systems thinking? Practice that on the 3 focus topics, or to the MFPC purpose. Take-aways we can bring back to our agencies.

Closing – Lori Davis

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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