

Marin Food Policy Council
Meeting Notes
April 16, 2019
HHS Wellness Campus, 3240 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the HHS campus, Room 110

Attendance:

*** = Voting members**

	Alexandra Danino, SF-Marin Food Bank*		Madeline Hope, West Marin Waste Education*
X	Bonnie Nielsen, UCCE		Marv Zauderer, ExtraFood.org
	Bonny White, West Marin Com Services*		Miguel Villarreal, Novato USD*
	Casey Poldino, Zero Waste Marin*	X	Paula Freeman, Covia
X	Elaini Negussie, HHS Nutrition Wellness	X	Reba Meigs, HHS Public Health*
X	Felicia Chavez, Systems Thinking Marin	X	Sheila Kopf, SF-Marin Food Bank
	Gueidi Beltran, WIC*	X	Steve Schwartz, Interfaith Sus Food Collaborative*
	Heather Bettini, CAM	X	Susan Lopes, Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce
	Janet Brown, AllStar Organics*		Susan Martinelli, WIC
X	Julia Van Soelen Kim, UCCE*		Terrie Green, Marin City Comm. Services District*
	June Farmer, Marin City CX3*		
X	Kathy Carver, ExtraFood.org*		
X	Kathy Koblick, HHS Public Health		<i>Guests:</i>
X	Lauren Klein, Comm. & School Gardens	X	Bruce Richard, Environmental Forum of Marin
X	Liana Orlandi, Ag. Institute of Marin*	X	Cody Erikson, Zero Waste Marin
	Lorenzo Cordova, BOS*	X	Daeja Tillis, Nutrition Wellness Intern
X	Lori Davis, Sanzuma*	X	Norma Lisenko, Innovative Health Solutions
	Madelene McCann, Marin Child Care Council		

Welcome and Announcements – Lori Davis

- Lori: Novato will help Sanzuma open a farm at Hamilton School, will be growing for a childcare center, senior center, and 3 school districts. Sanzuma is expanding to Novato rather than opening a second site in San Rafael (McPhails). Farm will be half city-owned and half school-owned land. Will have a farm stand in the parking lot of the school for parents to shop. Community homes are being built across the street.
- Liana: Sunday, April 28 talk at the farmers market on carbon farming (part of the Harvest Talk Series) – check AIM’s website for time and more info.
- Bruce: Tuesday, April 23 Environmental Forum of Marin event on the Green New Deal and climate change.
- Felicia: Thursday, April 18 College of Marin Model UN group meeting at 5pm; Friday, April 26 screening of film “Symbiotic Earth” on Lynn Margulis (College of Marin Environmental Action Club), from 1-3pm.
- Susan: Tuesday, April 23 Mill Valley job fair

Council Business – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- **New member presentations:** Norma Lisenko, *Innovative Health Solutions* and Susan Lopes, *Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce*
 - Norma Lisenko, *Innovative Health Solutions*. New fiscal sponsor for MFPC's collaborative work, under recent MCF funding. Work in the Bay Area with public health orgs, health advocates, schools, local businesses, non-profits, youth and youth orgs. Currently working on Napa CalFresh program and Napa and Solano Senior programming, as well as training and technical assistance for groups, and fiscal management for groups. normalisenko@gmail.com.
 - Susan Lopes, *Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce*. Food person her whole life, small bakery chain in SF for 12 years, helped build teams for small natural food stores, event planning for environmental non-profits, now Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce. Working on zero waste initiatives with MV Chamber. MV chapter of Sustainable Marin. Passions: food, the environment, social justice, and where they converge. Businesses fund the chamber of commerce (96% zero waste at last year's fundraiser, aiming for 100% this year). Trying to pass a no plastic ordinance in MV.

Policy Updates – Julia Van Soelen Kim and Steve Schwartz

- There were two policy votes via email between March and April meetings because they were time-sensitive (ask for concerns to opposition to email/opt-out of support):
 - MFPC submitted Public Comment in opposition to USDA's Proposed Rulemaking on SNAP requirements and services for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (attempt to further restrict access to SNAP for people who need it)
 - MFPC submitted a Letter of Support for AB 138 (Statewide sugar-sweetened beverage tax). Statewide effort to limit county opportunities for SSB taxes passed recently; only remaining option for a SSB tax would be a statewide tax; this effort is gaining popularity. Authors of the bill kept it vague, hoping that people would amend *onto* the bill as it moves through the legislative process, which means that the advocate community (such as MFPC) needs to go through legislators to add amendments. Expected to generate \$3 billion every year forever – half would go to schools, and half to everyone else (likely treatment, but we should speak up to add for prevention). MFPC can get a meeting with Assemblyman Levine to make a floor amendment in the Assembly. Contact Steve or Julia if you are interested in joining this effort. Watch online: Roots of Change SSB video for names of key votes in key committees. *Draft Letter of Support circulated among Council and vote to submit, along with mention of older adults: **approved**.*
- WIC farmers market nutrition program is being dealt with this year, will share more info on Monday for Council review if we want to sign on.
- SB 499 (Ten Cent Meals bill) unanimously passed their first committee (education committee). Should resend Letter of Support to each committee, because at each committee the bill could be killed. Lori to check with McGuire.

Develop Guiding Questions for the Year – Julia Van Soelen Kim

- **Questions to ask our break-out groups (Climate Change, and Local Food Supply Chain) to guide planning:**

- POLICY
 - What and Why: Define problem, goal, solution/ideal state.
 - Who: Who is most impacted? Who else is also working on this issue? Allies and opposition?
 - Where: Where is there momentum? What level of policy (fed, state, local, or org)? Big P or little p?
 - When: Time frame? When should we act?
 - How: How will it be funded? Sustainable over time? Evaluate success? How can MFP help?
- OLDER ADULTS
 - Identify relevancy to older adults, especially through equity lens
 - Policies, pgms, practices already in place? Best practices elsewhere to learn from?
 - Panelist or presenter who could speak on this topic?
 - Organizations serving older adults who should be in the room?

Break-out Groups

- Choose a group: **Local Food Supply Chain** and **Climate Change and the Food System**
- Plan first month's meeting
 - **Climate Change MAY meeting:** invite Draw Down Marin to present on: ways food contributes to climate change, ways that the food system can be part of the solution, and ways food system will be impacted by climate change.
 - Possible panelists: Kathy Koblick, Marv Zauderer, Alex with CDA, Sup. Leslie Alden
 - What do we want to learn? What percent of food consumed in Marin is local, what slice of climate change pie is food production, food waste, food packaging, etc. Lay of the land of the current efforts in Marin.
 - Other resources: CA Climate and Ag Network does legislation on this topic (CalCAN), Food Systems and Climate Change report on Center for Ecoliteracy (Fritoj Kapra)
 - Potential outcome: factsheet or document connecting food system and climate change topics, specifically regarding Marin County (Marin-specific numbers).
 - **Local Food Supply Chain JUNE meeting:** conventional vs organic and short vs long-term supply chain.
 - Possible panel for learning at first meeting: larger producers in Marin (Veritable Vegetable, SunFarms meat, Straus), with policy solutions to address issues at second meeting
 - Question of the percentage of food consumed in Marin is grown locally? Food miles?
 - Include some analysis on where decisions are made and how we can influence decisions along the chain (short vs long-term supply chain)
- **Older Adults theme will be woven throughout both issues, as will policy theme**

Closing – Lori Davis

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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