

9/15/20 – MFPC Meeting Notes ZOOM conference call

Attendees: Bonnie Nielsen (UC Cooperative Extension), Felicia Chavez (Systems Thinking Marin), Julia Van Soelen Kim (UC Cooperative Extension), Heather Gilardi (Innovative Health Solutions), Juliette Martinez (American Heart Association), Marchon Tatmon (SF-Marin Food Bank), Meg Davidson (SF-Marin Food Bank), Reba Meigs (Innovative Health Solutions), Ryan Thayer (Marin County HHS), Steve Schwartz (Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative), Wendy Tobiasson (citizen)

Introductions & Share a Word (Announcements at end of meeting) - Julia Van Soelen Kim

Policy Platform Development - Julia Van Soelen Kim

- Review updated problem statements, key topics, and identify next steps. Combination of 1-2 people moving things forward and group process.

- CalFresh (Reba)
- Climate Change (Julia)
- Food Equity & Racial Justice (Ryan)
- Older Adults & Farm to Institution (Steve) -- did not meet today

Facilitators take notes here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZiI6iITpMfV53gFGLmOhMB3tsCZwmbILlkyWrzbzE/edit?usp=sharing>

Tasks within groups:

- 1) Introductions (name, organization, role)
- 2) Re-visit and define the problem statement
- 3) Identify the key sub-issues that fall within the bucket.
- 4) Identify specific equity impacts on children, older adults, and BIPOC.

Example: [National Agenda for a Sustainable Food System](#)

Report-out

- **CalFresh** (Steve): PEBT clarification, addition to problem statement about maximizing enrollment even during natural disaster, nutrition incentives clarification, added bullets around equity. Could add something around addressing Marin's low ranking of CalFresh enrollment - data supporting why the issue is so important for Marin. Possibility to explain effects of Covid on enrollment, what did we learn?
Feel the group is a 4.5 in terms of completing this bucket (1-5).
- **Food Equity & Racial Justice** (Ryan): who is a part of this group and who isn't, sensitivity around terminology and the use of the term "food desert" vs the term "food apartheid" - how are we holding ourselves accountable to ensuring all can participate. Regarding recruitment: is this a welcoming space, is this the right space? Could we stipend community members to participate, do we need to set up a model to go to them? Baltimore example: community members came in for a short period of time and engaged around topics that mattered to them (utilized local papers and gave members stipends). Both the *WHAT* (policy topics) and the *HOW* (we do our work together). Race Counts report published in 2017 available at racecounts.org. A Portrait of Marin is a MCF report that talks about the disparity issues. https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mcf-redesign-assets/pdfs/A_Portrait_of_Marin.pdf?mtime=20170106150247&focal=none. MFPC is planning fall learning (hopefully November) on redlining in Marin - if anyone has contacts for potential presenters, please let us know (Sharon Turner, Katie Rice public comment on

redlining still in the language of her home)

Feel the group is a 2.5 in terms of completing this bucket (1-5).

Next steps: work on an engagement plan - would that be a structure worth exploring? It would help us understand the problem better, may or may not help ID solutions (maybe that's where MFPC work would come in?). Some hesitation about going back to the community asking about problems again without offering solutions, though this is not an excuse not to engage. Could take some solutions that have begun and ask for comment to help refine solutions? How to tie in with HEAL? Work on our *HOW* before continuing on the *WHAT*.

- **Climate Change** (Julia): worked on narrowing problem statement. Key point: don't want to reinvent the wheel and make sure our work is aligned with climate action plans of Drawdown Marin and various municipalities, look to them as leaders and align our work, while holding the unique role that food and farming has in this topic. Permaculture can be a key element of the discussion.

Feel the group is a 3 in terms of completing this bucket (1-5) -- halfway, need time to make work succinct, and make climate change link to other policy areas as well. Perhaps each group can explain how they link to the others so we can eventually form a coordinated statement.

- Three months of group work; now is time for the Steering Committee and key volunteers to take it to the next step in forming a final draft - if interested please contact the Steering Committee. Steering Committee to align with HEAL work in the meantime as well. Learning sessions next two months (Climate in October and redlining in November) and then present on this in November or December. December MFPC Meeting -- please save Tuesday, December 15 and plan on joining us to wrap up 2020.

Policy Updates - Steve Schwartz & All

- **Request for Introduction of Anti-Hunger Proclamation** (Marchon Tatmon) - September is Hunger Action Month, aligns with Gov Newsom taking legislative action on AB 826. Want BOS to write a Hunger Action Month Anti-Hunger proclamation for this on-going crisis, especially during Covid. Timeline: as soon as possible. Marchon to make it more specific to Marin County, MFPC members encouraged to provide feedback to Marchon directly as well, and Marchon will let the Steering Committee know if he needs anything in support.
Vote for MFPC to be a co-sponsor of the proclamation (comfortable bringing the proclamation to BOS): approved.
- **Master Plan on Aging** (Steve Schwartz) - Gov announced in June 2019 he'd look for input until October 2020. Nothing included on food initially, so some FPC advocates wanted to make sure food was addressed, stakeholder advisory committees met, drafted a plan that could impact aging issues for the next 10 years - draft (with 700 recommendations!!) released Saturday meeting.
Next steps: recommend sending a follow-up letter to Dept of Aging thanking them for including what they did and make sure food content stays in the final. Steve and Reba will propose to Steering Committee.
Vote to submit supplemental letter: approved.
- FRAC [sign-on letter](#) to [Extend School Meal Program Waivers](#) (Julia Van Soelen Kim) -- *skipped*

Council Business - Julia Van Soelen Kim

- Update on Black Lives Matter work and focus on food justice for BIPOC communities in Marin
 - Planning fall session on historical redlining: hopefully in November

- Meeting trajectory for the remainder of the year October: Climate Change learning, November: redlining learning, December: report back on policy platform and wrap up 2020

Virtual meeting closed at 4:35 p.m.

Next virtual meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 20 from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.