

Piedmont Triad Regional Food Council

Full Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 28 2021

12:00pm – 1:15pm || Remote Call: Zoom

Objectives:

Today's Objectives:

- Provide space for council member connections and updates
- Approve August minutes
- Review meeting schedule & changes for 2022
- Membership for 2022
- Encourage Council Members to Join Workgroups: Partner Presentations & Shared Gifting

Attendance: (c) consultant; (s) technical support staff; (v) visitor

Carl Mitchell

Jennifer Bedrosian (s)

Tom Henslee

Cori Lindsay

Kana Miller

Zulfiya Tursunova

David Allen

LaShauna Austria (v)

Gini Knight (v)

Michael Banner

Hannah Harrison

Rachel Zimmer

12:00 PM Call to order

- Rachel Zimmer called the meeting to order.
- Welcome and council updates
 - What are you working on? Where do you need support?
 - Rachel Zimmer's Program (Food RX) is ending. Meeting as a community to re-think strategies for older adults in Forsyth County. May possibly re-open under SHARE Leadership if funding is available. Second Harvest also applied for funding to keep the program going, but did not receive.
 - Kana Miller, CFSA, working on Medicaid Transformation and CFSA's role. Connecting with food hubs, farmers, etc. across the state. CFSA is starting policy work- Farm Storm 2021- to provide educational sessions about the Farm Bill using NSAC curriculum. If anyone is interested in hosting or joining, reach out.
 - La Shauna Austria, Community Food Strategies. Trying to balance Zoom/in person work life. Lots going on.
 - Gini Knight, Community Food Strategies. Dreaming about farming again one day. Working with regions across the state to bring network together and cultivate relationships. Exciting possibilities to engage in policy and equity work.
 - Cori Lindsay- Caswell County. The local food council is reorganizing, existing founders have stepped away. New leadership has come on board. CEAD (Center for Education and Ag) in Pelham had a Tobacco Trust Fund visit this last week, waiting on funding decisions.

- Michael Banner- Island CultureZ. Working on trying to build cooperative, meeting with lawyers and networking with urban farmers.
 - Carl Mitchell- Mitchell's Butchery and Meat Processing. A lot going on. Mitchell's needs to build out the facility, they're more than a year booked out. Met in closed session with Stokes County Commissioners. Made a pitch to create an Agribusiness Park to directly address some of the needs. Unanimous decision to move forward to public comment for the creation of Agribusiness Park. Partnering with Forsyth Tech on meat cutting program. Needs help! Ask is for grant writing help. Meat processor specific grant will come out early next year. Carl will need help with securing matching funds and establishing private/public relationship and tying all the pieces together.
 - David Allen, Randolph County Commissioner. Looking a building an Ag Center on 100 acres in Randolph with support from ARP Funds. Extension Director put together report modeled on CEAD project in Caswell. Ideas for infrastructure for food hub, education, demonstration farm, commercial kitchen. Learned that partial funding made it through the house and senate. Hoping it will go through. They've been trying to do this in Randolph for over 20 years.
 - Tom Henslee, Back to Earth Farm, Randolph County. Working with national organizations on expanding rules on livestock processing to help make that easier. Day to day at the farm is very busy.
 - Hannah Harrison, Wake Forest University. Excited about being an ACE Fellow at Wake and will have support to develop community engaged projects. Will be able to connect students with projects and potentially partnering with PTRFC on projects.
 - Zulfiya Tursonova, Guilford College. Started classes in mid-August and partnered with North Carolina Asian Americans Together Organization to share recipes and culture and bring communities together and celebrate Asian American culture through cooking classes. Last one is this Wednesday.
- Update: Community Food Strategies – Triad Food Council Rendezvous on 11/10
 - Regions across the state are organizing events to connect in lieu of the statewide food council meeting. [These can be found here](#).
 - Triad Event is being held on Wednesday, November 10th from 10am-12pm. Will be sharing updates from each council and expressing needs as well as brainstorming how to move forward into what's next. Everyone here is invited!

12:25 pm

Role call vote on August minutes

- Tom Henslee motioned to approve minutes; David Allen seconded the motion.
- Minutes approved.

12: 30 pm Review Meeting Schedule and Membership

- Meetings for remainder of the year:
 - October 19th 2pm
 - November 23rd 12pm –reschedule this since close to holiday?
 - December: community engagement/service project on hold due to COVID (cancel December meeting).
- Co-chairs propose: combine November/December meeting: December 7th at 12pm. Council is in agreement.
- Jennifer proposed new meeting schedule for 2022 for ease and consistency:
 - Council to meet monthly (instead of interim/full meetings). *Would need change to bylaws and council approval.
 - Proposed: Meet the 4th Tuesday of the month at 12pm (instead of alternating weeks and times).
 - Those on the call are supportive.
 - Question: How does this impact attendance requirements?

12:40 pm Membership

- Still taking food council co-chair nominations.
- Council reviewed current member list and new applicant bios. Are there specific questions?
 - Rachel asked if council would like to put together a new member packet?
 - LaShauna recommended new member orientation for folks. Maybe one or two calls. And central location for documents to be housed.
 - Would a group like to meet to help organize a new member orientation? Yes: Rachel, Hannah, Kana. Jennifer will follow up to schedule a planning meeting. Onboarding is a co-chair responsibility.
- Taking new membership applications through November. County needs are in Davie County, Montgomery County, Yadkin County- and possibly Alamance.
- Zulfiya suggested North Carolina Asian Americans Together and will reach out.

1:00pm Work Groups

- You can still sign up for a workgroup here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E4FA8AB2DA7F94-ptrfc>
- Partner Presentations are happening and scheduled throughout October.
 - Carl and Emily from Coop Ext. can help with presentation in Stokes County. Jennifer will reach out.

1:15pm Adjourn