

Piedmont Triad Regional Food Council

Full Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

12:00pm – 1:15pm || Remote Call: Zoom

Objectives:

Today's Objectives:

- Check in/updates from council members and guests
- Review and approve council business
- Vote new members and 2022 Co-Chair

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

Cori Lindsay	Jennifer Bedrosian (s)	Rachel Zimmer
David Allen	Jose Abreu	Sherrie Wise Thomas (v)
David Putnam (s)	Kana Miller	Stesha Warren
Gary Williams	LaShauna Austria (v)	Tom Henslee
Hannah Harrison	Matthew Dolge (s)	Zulfiya Tursunova
Jane Sayner (v)	Michael Banner	

12:00 PM Call to order

- Rachel Zimmer called the meeting to order.
- Welcome guests
 - Sherrie Wise Thomas, DrPH, MPH, MCHES, Fellow, Wake Forest Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Academic Learning Health System Scholars Program (aLHSS)- had connected with Rachel and interested to learn more about the council
 - Jane Sayner, Policy Systems and Environmental Change Manager, Second Harvest Food Bank – joining to hear more
 - LaShauna Austria- Community Food Strategies, Alamance Food Collaborative – often joins this meeting and has recently applied as a food council member
- Council updates:
 - Rachel asked for an update on the Forsyth County Partner Presentation and presentations in general.
 - Kana Miller, Gary Williams, Michael Banner, and Jennifer Bedrosian attended in Forsyth. Went well in general, met some resistance about SNAP benefits not being more prominent in the report. Michael Banner suggested that maybe going back in the spring to discuss in further detail or ask for something specific. The report is extensive and hope Commissioners will read it. Provided exposure for PTRFC and our work. Gary Williams agreed it was a good first step and maybe going back with specific recommendations is a good idea.
 - David Allen agreed that this is an opener to provide familiarity with the information, to plant seeds. If you can cultivate an advocate on the Board, that helps with next steps. Next step may be listening sessions from Commissioner

leadership and other departmental folks in government with interest to continue the conversation.

- How do we continue with next steps? let's think about this as a council. Follow up with those individuals/Commissioners who have specific interest in food, keep in touch, maybe an email follow-up in the new year with thanks and offer to provide additional information or follow-up. ARPA Funds stipulations are still being determined on how they can be spent.
 - May want to reach out to City Councils- City of W-S, High Point, Greensboro for presentations.
 - Council members voiced that we need to see something substantial from Commissioners and needing more support. Want them to feel urgency of the people most in need.
 - General feeling that there are opportunities for more education around systems level thinking and the urgency: may be helpful to address common misconceptions and speak to complexity of the situation.
- USDA announced RFSP awards. The Regional Food council applied and was not selected this year. One organization in NC was awarded- NC State University. You can find the award announcements here:
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/FY2021RFSPDescriptionofFundedProjects.pdf>
 - PTRFC received a NADO Impact Award for Learn-Build-Eat, the virtual launch event of the food assessment. Awards listed here: <https://nado-app-2021.s3.amazonaws.com/index.html>

12:30 pm

- Review: September + October Minutes
- Review: Updated Bylaws
 - Meeting frequency changed to monthly
 - Attendance requirements updated increasing number of allowable missed meetings from two to three per year. **Individual circumstances taken into consideration.*
- Review: 2022 Meeting Schedule
- Review: New members- 2022 Candidates
- Co-Chair 2022 (Kana Miller)

12:45 Roll Call Vote and Discussion for all above

- All approved
- Following this meeting, two additional council member candidates applied and were approved via email vote.

1:00 Other updates

- BIG thank you! To all the members who will be rolling off in December
- Food Assessment Webpage has been updated: www.ptrc.org/regionalfoodassessment
- New member orientation scheduled for January 12th at 10am (anyone welcome!)

- Council survey: an annual check-up- please complete by December 17th. Will send out link in follow up email.
- Shared after the meeting: **Funding Opportunities**
 - USDA AMS is now accepting applications for the [Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program](#), \$400M available.
 - RAFI-USA: [Come to the Table Mini-Grants](#)
 - HFFI (Healthy Food Financing Initiative) [\\$4 million in grants available](#)
 - [\\$12 Million in Grants Available to Support Farm to School Projects](#)
- **Job Opportunities**
 - RAFI-USA: [Farmers of Color Network Program Director](#), [Come to the Table Program Director](#)
 - Cobblestone Farmers Market is hiring for a part-time, salaried Market Program Coordinator with fluency in Spanish. Applications will be reviewed beginning on January 20th. Jennifer has a job description from Cobblestone, if you'd like to view it or pass along.

1:15 Adjourn- Happy holidays! Happy New Year!

- Dates to note:
 - New member orientation: January 12th at 10am
 - First 2022 Council Meeting: January 25th at 12pm